FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

11 JULY 1984

Gulf Conflict

A "large maritime target" in an Iranian oil field was attacked by Iraqi naval and air units, according to a military spokesman cited by Baghdad radio. The radio had earlier cited Lloyd's Insurance Company reports that the UK tanker *British Renown* was hit by two missiles east of Bahrain. Baghdad radio linked this earlier attack to recent attacks on tankers by Iranian aircraft and cited a REUTER report that Iranian reconnaissance aircraft were seen over the ship 50 minutes before the attack. Shipping sources in Manama cited by Tehran radio stated that the UK tanker was attacked between Saudi Arabia and Iran by "unidentified aircraft."

Kuwait-USSR Arms Talks

Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah held another round of talks in Moscow with his Soviet counterpart Marshal Dmitriy Ustinov, Kuwait radio reported. Shaykh Salim stated that a senior Soviet delegation will be sent to Kuwait as liaison for the military matters agreed upon during this visit, KUNA added. Shaykh Salim also disclosed that three joint Soviet-Kuwaiti technical committees, which specialize in air and ground weapons, have been formed, according to KUNA, citing the Kuwaiti paper *AL-QABAS*. However, the Kuwaiti paper *AL-ANBA'*, cited by KUNA, reported that Shaykh Salim denied that his visit will include the signing of Soviet weapons contracts for the GCC forces.

Lebanon

Libyan Bureau Explosion — Armed men of the "As-Sadr Brigades" dynamited the Libyan People's Bureau in West Beirut early on 11 July after forcing their way into the building and overpowering Lebanese guards and Libyan staff, AFP reported. The attackers removed their captives to a safe distance from the building and then detonated dynamite placed in the bureau's elevator shaft. Noting that the explosion precedes Libyan Foreign Liaison Secretary 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki's scheduled visit to Beirut, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon said the As-Sadr Brigades have warned Lebanese officials against receiving At-Turayki and have threatened to prevent his visit.

Afram on Reforms — The Lebanese Forces will "politically resist" the government's attempt to give Muslims a greater share of power in a unified and centralized Lebanon, Lebanese Forces Commander Fadi Afram stated in remarks reported by Radio Free Lebanon. He reaffirmed his support for a decentralized system of government.

Syrian-Israeli Talks Denial — SANA's political editor denied "completely unfounded" Western reports that Syria has held talks with Israel on the security issue in Lebanon.

PLO Affairs

Recognition of Palestinian rights must precede any consideration of Israel's right to exist, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat stated at a press conference in Geneva reported by SPA. The PLO leader's remarks followed his meeting with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. Reports that 'Arafat might also meet with Syrian Vice President Rif'at al-Asad in Geneva were "not confirmed," according to AFP.

Israeli, Palestinian POW's

The PFLP-GC has expressed willingness to release its three Israeli POW's within 24 hours if Israel releases PFLP-GC prisoners in exchange, Jerusalem radio disclosed in a report on a PFLP-GC news conference in Damascus. In remarks broadcast by the radio, the head of the Israeli team dealing with the POW issue took a "positive" view of the PFLP-GC's declared willingness to negotiate a POW exchange, though he added that Israel has not yet received the Palestinian organization's proposals through the International Red Cross. Israel is holding 121 men from the PFLP-GC, the radio noted.

In another development, Defense Minister Moshe Arens announced that Israel is willing to exchange its DFLP prisoners for Israeli Druze soldier Samir As'ad, Jerusalem radio reported. Arens said Israel has no confirmation of the DFLP's claim that As'ad was killed in an Israeli air raid near Tripoli.

Diplomatic Developments

Mitterrand in Jordan — French President Francois Mitterrand held his second round of talks with Jordan's King Husayn, Amman radio reported. In a news conference broadcast by Amman television, Mitterrand repeated his call for a Middle East conference that includes all parties, pointed out that although France supports Iraq it is not hostile to Iran, and explained that official French-PLO relations lack "certain elements" regarding the PLO's stands concerning Israel and terrorism.

Syria-Iran Relations — Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and his Syrian counterpart Faruq ash-Shar' discussed ways to strengthen bilateral relations during a meeting in Damascus reported by Damascus radio. Commenting on his visit, Velayati said he is bearing a message from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i to Syria's President Hafiz al-Asad, the radio noted.

Al-Qadhdhafi Messages — Libyan envoys have visited a number of Arab capitals, including Damascus and Riyadh, to deliver written messages to Arab leaders from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi concerning "joint Arab action," according to JANA reports.

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'Arafat in Geneva; To Talk With Perez de Cuellar

JN101943 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] arrived in Geneva today on a visit during which he will meet with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to discuss matters concerning the work of the UN committee on the Palestinian people's inalienable rights, the latest developments in the Palestine question, and the current Arab situation.

'Arafat will hold talks with WHO officials tomorrow concerning the health of Palestinian citizens in the occupied homeland.

Meeting With Syrian Unconfirmed

NC101215 Paris AFP in English 1154 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Geneva, July 10 (AFP) — Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived here today for a series of talks, beginning with United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. After a working lunch with Mr Perez de Cuellar, Mr 'Arafat was to give a press conference and then call at the International Committee of the Red Cross. Tomorrow he was to have meetings at the World Health Organization (WHO) and at UN general offices here, before leaving in the afternoon.

Reports that he might also meet Syrian Vice-President Rif'at al-Asad, brother of President Hafiz al-Asad, were not confirmed.

Holds Press Conference

LD101845 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1710 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Geneva, 10 Jul (SPA) — Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat has stressed that recognition of the Palestinians' rights must come before any consideration of the Israeli entity's right to existence. At a press conference today following his meeting with the UN secretary general, 'Arafat explained that any comprehensive and permanent peace in the Middle East depends on the Palestinians attaining their rights. He called for recognition of the Palestinians' right to their land, flag, and state. He said that the Palestinians must not be asked to make concessions when 60 percent of them are refugees and 10 percent are living under Zionist occupation.

He added that he told UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar of his preparedness to fully cooperate with the United Nations in its efforts to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict. 'Arafat called anew for the convening of an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of all parties concerned and the UN Secretary Council members.

With regard to the forthcoming Israeli elections, he pointed out that they will not bring anything new because there is no difference between the Labor party and the Israeli Likud coalition, explaining that both support the policy of settlements in the occupied Arab territories which are in violation of all UN resolutions. He condemned Israel's continuation of the building of such settlements.

PLO Radio on 'Arafat's Recent Visit to Jordan

JN101219 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1630 GMT 9 Jul 84

[Political editor's dispatch]

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] concluded an important visit to Jordan yesterday. During the visit, he met with His Majesty King Husayn and a number of senior officials. He also met with a number of Palestinian figures from inside and outside the occupied territory. This meeting took place during his meeting with the members of the Higher Palestinian Council for Education, Culture, and Sciences. It was important that Brother Abu 'Ammar meet with His Majesty King Husayn and exchange information and viewpoints with him on the current political developments in the region. This is because the basis of the Jordanian-Palestinian coordination stems from the fact that the two sides are concerned about contining and promoting cooperation in order to confront the current and future great challenges which affect the interests of the two fraternal peoples.

King Husayn and Brother Abu 'Ammar, undoubtedly, had information to exchange during this period, especially since the past few months witnessed active moves by the Jordanian and Palestinian leaderships on the Arab and international levels. Indisputably, during the coming months important questions will be raised which must be answered decisively by the Palestinian and Jordanian leaderships, especially after the crystallization of the Zionist entity's stand in the wake of the new elections, and after the U.S. elections where reports and statements of known political significance are being leaked. All these statements and reports indicate that the ball will be in the Jordanian court even if this is only on the propaganda level. Consequently, ways must be found to successfully translate :he Palestinian-Jordanian agreement into a practical and responsible stand that would foil the enemy's evil intentions and entrench the formula of understanding and cohesion between the Palestinian and Jordanian peoples and their two leaderships.

Although Jordanian-Palestinian coordination is extremely important in the PLO's political strategy, it cannot cancel the importance of finding the Arab support for it, not on the basis of axes and polarization, but on the basis of serious Arab solidarity that supports and adopts Palestinian rights, and entrenches the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and the leader of their struggle to achieve these rights. From this premise, the PLO and its Chairman Yasir 'Arafat showed great flexibility in promoting their Arab relations, particularly the Syrian-Palestinian relations that are extraordinarily important to the PLO. There are known Syrian sides that work to foil any positive effort to settle the PLO-Syrian differences and therefore the PLO must exert double efforts in order to surmount the difficulties and lay down the bases of Syrian-Palestinian relations that would constitute a basic, important, and central part of the PLO's relations.

The PLO has successfully triumphed over the danger of dissension and fragmentation. Moreover, it spares no effort to entrench the unity of its factions on clearer and firmer bases than at any time before. In light of its current position and situation, the PLO is looking to the future with great optimism and confidence.

Moreover, the PLO can change the course of events in favor of its people and cause. This constitutes a guarantee to the Palestinian people to make them confident of their present and their future. It also works as a factor for the Palestinian leadership to proceed with its Arab and international relations in a good and responsible manner.

'Arafat Receives Reply From Indian Prime Minister

JN101942 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] yesterday received a cable of thanks from Indian Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi in response to his cable in which he expressed solidarity with her in the wake of the internal disturbances which took place in India recently.

Palestinian Alliances Meet, Differences Reported

JN091851 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 9 Jul 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] The PFLP-General Command today called for a press conference to be held at one of its headquarters in Damascus tomorrow evening. The purpose is to inform world public opinion of the results of the talks concerning exchanging prisoners between the Front and Israel.

It is to be recalled that the Front is holding three Israeli POW's. It seems that it wants to show the third Israeli prisoner during this press conference. [sentence as heard]

Meanwhile, representatives of the Palestinian National Alliance and the Palestinian Democratic Alliance resumed their talks regarding the draft agreement which was initialed in Aden between the Democratic Alliance and 'Arafat's Central Committee [as heard]. The talks were held at the Palestine National Council's headquarters in Damascus.

PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum declined to attend the meeting for health reasons. Ahmad Jibril, George Habash, and Nayif Hawatimah also declined to attend because Al-Fahum did not attend. The meeting lasted for 6 hours and was attended by Muhammad Khalifah, Muhammad Zuhdi an-Nashashibi, 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, Samir Ghawshah, Khalid 'Abd al-Majid, Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], Colonel Abu Khalid al-'Amlah, Fadl Shur', Talal Naji, Yaisr 'Abd Rabbuh, Salah Salah, and Mustafa Mulhim.

Reporters present noted that the meeting was very voltile. Statements that followed the meeting showed that differences in viewpoints were still rife between the two sides. Salih Ra'fat of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine said: We do not understand the remarks calling the Aden agreement deviationist and defeatist. The attempts that are being made to level accusations at the Democratic Alliance and to tarnish the Aden agreement serve only the attempts to spoil Syrian-Palestinian relations. He asserted that the Democratic Alliance will go ahead in following up the dialogue regardless of any such accusations. He called on everybody to take part in the comprehensive Palestinian dialogue and denounced the attempts to cast doubt on the Aden agreement.

It is known that the parties of the National Alliance are insisting on removing 'Arafat from the chairmanship of the PLO Executive Committee. They declared their refusal to attend the Algiers meeting which will be held later this week.

It seems that the dialogue between the Democratic Alliance and the National Alliance will be suspended until further notice unless new developments arise.

Further on Meeting

JN110946 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] Regarding the intra-Palestinian dialogues which have been going on for some time now in Damascus between the groups of the National Alliance and the Democratic Alliance, various Palestinian sources here today confirmed that the sixth session of this dialogue, which was held yesterday under the chairmanship of 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, was a very heated one. However, it calmed down for the sake of preserving the unity of ranks. It is also obvious that there is still strong disagreement on the subject of the continuation of Yasir 'Arafat as chairman of the PLO.

The conferees had discussed the recent Aden agreement which was initialed by the Democratic Alliance and 'Arafat's Central Committee [as heard]. The National Alliance believes that the Democratic Alliance has made major concessions in this agreement. Bassam Abu Sharif, who is from the Democratic Alliance, today described the Aden agreement as an important, positive, and serious step on the path of reunifying the PLO. He called on the Palestinian masses to rally around this agreement in order to push the comprehensive national dialogue to its positive conclusions prior to the convocation of the PNC.

However, Fadl Shur', one of the leaders of the National Alliance and official spokesman of the PFLP-GC, said that the National Alliance believes that the Aden agreement does not constitute a suitable basis for comprehensive national dialogue, especially since this dialogue entrenches Yasir 'Arafat's position as leader of the PLO, which was contrary to what was agreed upon late last year among all the resistance groups. The agreement then was that by his visit to Cairo, 'Arafat violated the PNC resolutions, and therefore he lost his legitimacy and eligibility as leader of the PLO.

The spokesman for the opposition in the Fatah Movement said that yesterday's discussions centered on the attitude toward 'Arafat and his visit to Cairo and that no agreement was reached, because certain members of the Democratic Alliance retreated from their earlier positions to the extent of saying that they will attend the PNC session and if the session does not condemn the visit they will follow 'Arafat. The spokesman said that the groups

of the National Alliance held a meeting following the failure of yesterday's dialogue with the Democratic Alliance and issued a statement considering the Aden agreement as serving the 'Arafat line. The groups of the National Alliance called for the cancellation of the Aden agreement and the suspension of any dialogue with 'Arafat's Central Committee.

At any rate, it seems that the Democratic Alliance is determined to continue the dialogue with both sides — 'Arafat's men and the National Alliance. I have learned that it was decided to continue the dialogue between the National Alliance and the Democratic Alliance in Damascus next Monday.

PFLP Official Says Aden Accord Will Be Ratified

JN111239 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 11 Jul 84 p 1

[By Lamis K. Andoni, *JORDAN TIMES* Staff Reporter]

[Text] Amman — A senior Damascus-based official of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) said Tuesday that an agreement reached in Aden two weeks ago between Fatah, the main stream Palestinian commando group, and a left-wing "Democratic Alliance" will be signed in Algiers in the coming few days despite reported rejection to the accord by Syrian-backed Palestinian factions.

Bassam Abu Sharif, a member of the Politbureau of the Damascus-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), told the *JORDAN TIMES* in a phone interview that "the singing will turn into an agreement guaranteed by five Palestinian organisations, Algeria and South Yemen," Mr Abu Sharif stressed, however, that the "Democratic Alliance" is still determined to carry out a "comprehensive national dialogue" among all Palestinian factions following the signing of the Aden agreement.

The PFLP official statement came in reply to statements made by Fatah Central Committee member Hani al-Hasan expressing scepticism whether to the Algiers meeting will ever take place at all.

Mr Abu Sharif criticized Mr al-Hasan's statement and said that the announcement of the agreement in Algiers "will clarify to the masses that the agreement draw up a clear national platform to the PLO, condemns PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Cairo last December and states clearly that all contacts with the Egyptian regime should be stopped immediately."

The Algiers meeting was scheduled to be held on July 8 but was postponed to an unspecified date to give time for the "Democratic Alliance" to talk four Syrian-backed factions into accepting the Aden agreement.

The four factions, which formed a "National Alliance" two months ago, include As-Sa'iqah, the PFLP-General Command, the tiny Popular Struggle Front and the Fatah rebels led by Colonel Sa'id Musa. The "National Alliance" has announced its rejection of the Aden agreement and accused those who accepted it of "deviation." Mr Abu Sharif strongly refuted these accusations and described the agreement as a "big step towards unity."

"All those who try to distort facts or put wheels do not serve the national aims of the Palestinian people." he said.

Mr Abu Sharif said that the "Democratic Alliance" is nevertheless continuing its talks with the "National Alliance" on the basis of the planned comprehensive Palestinian dialogue. He said that both sides have already had an important round of talks Monday and will meet again on Wednesday and Thursday.

"We hope to reach an agreement very soon. The national unity should be re-established as soon as possible because we will have important battles in the next period agagainst the Israeli-imperialist plans."

In a related development, a leaflet received here Tuesday and signed by four Palestinian professional associations and clubs in the Israeli-occupied West Bank pledged total support of the Aden agreement. The leaflet, signed by the Pharmacists Association, the Union of the Workers of the Jerusalem Electricity Company, the Salwan Sporting Club and the Unionist Action Front called on the five factions to implement the Aden agreement and to restore strong ties between Syria and the PLO leadership. The leaflet also expressed appreciation of the role played by Algeria and South Yemen in bringing about the agreement.

Palestinian Official on Upcoming Algiers Meeting

GF101545 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 10 Jul 84 pp 1, 16

["Exclusive" report from Damascus]

[Excerpt] Bassam Abu Sharif, member of the PFLP-DFLP joint leadership has said that a meeting will be held in Algiers during the next few days to sign and announce the Aden agreement. The meeting will be held at the level of the delegations which participated in the Aden dialogue.

Abu Sharif said that thus, the Aden agreement will be guaranteed by five Palestinian organizations, in addition to Algeria and the PDRY.

In exclusive statements to *AL-KHALIJ*, Bassam Abu Sharif said that the next step to signing the Algiers agreement will be the beginning of a national and comprehensive dialogue which will include all the Palestinian organizations. This comprehensive dialogue will concentrate on the next political and organizational program of the PLO and will also fix the date of the 17th PNC session.

Abu Sharif denied the Algiers meeting will be convened at the level of the leaders' of the factions, the PLO Executive Committee members, and the PNC office. He said that it will be attended by the heads of the delegations which attended the Aden meeting and signed the agreement.

The Fatah delegation will be led by Abu Jihad; the PFLP delegation by Mustafa Abu 'Ali; and the DFLP delegation by Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh.

Al-Wazir Clarifies PLO Pensioning Plan

JN071050 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 7 Jul 84 pp 1, 27

[Text] Amman, *AR-RA'Y* — Khalil Al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, has said that there are some incorrect interpretations concerning the procedures of pensioning the older Palestinian forces.

Answering a question from *AR-RA'Y* on this topic, Al-Wazir said that this measure is normal and has been taken in order to preserve the dignity of the [Palestinian] fighters after they reach 60, because these fighters' circumstances do not permit them to carry out combat tasks. This is in addition to the fact that there are fighters who joined the revolution temporarily, and then returned to their previous jobs. The names of these fighters were canceled from the lists. Furthermore, there are some fighters who like to leave their fellow fighters in order to pursue studies or to meet private needs. We do not object to their leaving the revolution's ranks after they obtain their full rights, Abu Jihad reiterated.

Al-Wazir added that the number of people being pensioned does not exceed scores of people belonging to the 41st Battalion. These people are over 60, physically unhealthy, and have been in the revolution from the beginning. He said: We already have a reserve system, and there is a reserves department to which all cadres are attached. This department is currently being reorganized.

Concerning the cut in salaries, Al-Wazir said that this is an administrative matter, which has been handled. He affirmed that there will be no cuts, as has been mentioned. This was a misunderstanding.

Regarding the acceptance of new recruits, Al-Wazir said: We keep the door continously open for the young elements who want to join the struggle action and enroll in training camps in order to be ready for action.

Kuwait AL-WATAN on Recent Palestinian-USSR Talks

GF101400 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 9 Jul 84 p 9

[Report by Sattar Jabbar]

[Text] *AL-WATAN* has obtained the major details of the meetings which were held between a Palestinian delegation led by Abu Iyad and a number of Soviet officials in Moscow recently. The Palestinian delegation consisted of Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad; Khalid al-Hasan, alias Abu as-Sa'id; and Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, who are all members of the Fatah Central Committee. The delegation held meetings with Dzasokhov, chairman [as published] of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries, and with the deputy chairman of the committee, Brutents, deputy chief of the International Department [of the CPSU Central Committee] and chairman [as published] of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries.

During these meetings Abu Iyad pointed out that there are no political differences in the Palestinian arena and that what happened was just a Libyan-Syrian operation aimed at creating an opposition front inside Fatah. He spoke about the various mediations made by different parties, including Algeria and Yemen, for the purpose of normalizing relations between the PLO and the Damascus government and said that all the efforts failed, due to Syrian determination to oust Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. He said: We in Fatah are a collective leadership and 'Arafat is committed to that. He added: We criticize 'Arafat on some tactical mistakes such as his visit to Cairo. He went on: 'Arafat gave us a convincing answer on this visit and we considered the visit as a tactical mistake and an organizational dissent.

Regarding the Palestinian position toward Egypt, Abu Iyad said that the organization [PLO] wants Egypt to return to the Arab ranks and wants to drive it gradually away from the Camp David accords although it is not possible to drive it completely away from this line.

Regarding the events of Tripoli, the Palestinian official said that the communists were dragged to this wrongdoing. He said: We are not against the communists and this is indicated by the fact that we are the only organization which agreed to give the Palestinian communists a seat on the Executive Committee. He pointed out that Abu Mazin reached an agreement with the Palestinian communists in Algiers recently.

Speaking about southern Lebanon, he said the Palestinian revolution forces are carrying out a great part of the patriotic operations against the occupation forces in the south.

Speaking about the PNC, Abu Iyad said that the reports about the Algiers meetings are good and encouraging except that some parties are determined not to consider Yasir 'Arafat as a common factor and are trying to deal with his visit to Cairo in a harsh way. He said: To ask the Kremlin to invite 'Arafat to visit Moscow is critical matter for us. During the meetings Abu Iyad pointed out that through different channels much wrong information often reaches the Kremlin.

In reply to Abu Iyad's statements, the Soviet officials, especially Brutents, said that 'Arafat's visit to Cairo cannot be considered an organizational error, because the visit led to political results that cannot be ignored. They said that any tactical matter has a political meaning too. The Soviet officials pointed out that some statements by 'Arafat directly assailed the Kremlin and that most of his moves and statements insulted Moscow. They said: We were surprised by the visit which is considered, in addition to its political meaning, a flagrant violation of the resolutions of the Palestinian leadership at the political level. They added: We, like others, have doubts about this visit and we consider it a step forward toward the Camp David accords. They said that the political meaning of this visit is quite obvious since it was made at the time when the differences between the Syria and the Palestinian leadership became very critical.

Regarding Egypt's position, Brutents said: We have accurate information about what is going on between President Mubarak and Washington and we know well whether it is possible or not to drive Mubarak away from Camp David. He said that 'Arafat's visit to Cairo showed the innocence of the course of the Egyptian regime.

Regarding the situation in Lebanon, the Soviet official pointed out that what happened in Lebanon represents a real defeat to the 17 May agreement and to the Camp David accords. He said that Syria played a great role in achieving that.

Regarding the question of inviting 'Arafat to visit Moscow, the Kremlin officials said that such an invitation is beyond their authority. They said that before such an invitation is made the leading circles in Moscow have to be adequately convinced.

They said: We are strongly criticizing 'Arafat and our leading circles are convinced of this criticism, but we do not say that openly. Regarding the PNC meetings the Soviet officials said:

What is important are the results and not the meeting. We believe in the necessity of reaching an organizational and political agreement and on the necessity of confirming the resolutions of the council's previous session.

Regarding the confederation with Jordan the Kremlin officials pointed out that they have obtained information from reliable sources indicating that 'Arafat had signed with King Husayn a draft plan to establish such a confederation.

Libya's At-Turayki Meets With PLO Figures

LD110808 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0726 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus, 11 Jul (JANA) — Dr 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, the secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, met yesterday evening in Damascus with Brother Khalid al-Fahum, PNC chairman, where he handed him a written message from the brother leader of the revolution to the PLO concerning united Arab action on strategic and fateful issues of the Arab nation.

Dr at-Turayki also met yesterday evening in Damascus with brothers Abu Musa, Abu Khalid al-'Amlah, and Qadri members of the new Fatah revolutionary leadership. He also met with Brother 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, member of the Executive Committee and the official PLO spokesman.

During these meetings the current Arab situation and ways and means to find a unified Arab stand to confront the imperialist onslaught which aim at the Arab nation, its culture, and its existance were discussed.

Palestinian Personality on King Husayn's Views

GF091820 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 8 Jul 84 P 1

["Exclusive" report from Washington]

[Text] *AS-SIYASAH* has interviewed an eminent Palestinian academic and political personality who has returned here from a recent "intensive meeting" with King Husayn in Amman. This "intensive meeting" discussed the overall Arab worries on the differences and relations with the United States and the Soviet Union. It also discussed Palestinian-Jordanian concerns and the predicted and unpredicted events in the next few days.

In his interview with *AS-SIYASAH*, this Palestinian personality said he became sure of King Husayn's intention to shift politically from the United States but without becoming hostile to it. The Jordanian monarch decided on this stand which he conveyed to the Palestinian personality after intensive meetings and frank analyses of the period between 1977 and 1983, the period which witnessed open dealings between Arab administrations, including the Jordanian administration, with the U.S. Administration on issues relating to the Middle East crisis — indeed Middle East crises.

The result of the analysis by King Husayn and his advisers was that this period was characterized by complete U.S. bias to the Israeli side and that this made Washington a party which is not qualified alone to play the role of "honest mediator" in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The alternative which King Husayn is currently thinking about is the return to an international conference similar to the 1977 Geneva conference to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict, but the problem now is: How is it possible to convince Washington of the feasibility of the convening of this conference, knowing that the Arabs — in the Jordanian king's view — have lost all their influence with it?

Regarding the Gulf war, in the Jordanian king's view, the United States will not work seriously to stop this war, as long as Israel is the direct beneficiary.

The religious fanaticism in the region, in the king's view, will stop or recede in case the following two happen:

1. An end of the Iraq-Iran war;

2. A collapse of the current religious regime and appearance of a new direction inside Iran which desires to deal with the world countries by ending Iran's international isolation.

Regarding developments in the Palestinian situation, the personality which returned from Amman recently said that the "symbolic existence" of PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's leadership will continue as long as the Arab regimes, particularly Jordan, Syria, and, to a lesser degree, Egypt, have decided to play their cards on the Palestinian table, which means to return the Palestinian practices to the period of 1960's when those practices were subjugated to the political and governmental mood.

Regarding the Fatah dissident movement, the Palestinian personality said that the Abu Musa group did not accurately estimate the political and moral cost the PLO would bear as a result of their isolation "and because they understood the size of this cost, they attended the Aden meetings and will also attend the Algiers meetings."

The Palestinian personality is saddened in particular over the fact that the Palestinian issue has completely disappeared from the international theater after it dominated it for the last 10 years and that this means a loss of a long period of political efforts and energies.

PFLP-GC Presents Israeli Prisoners at Press Conference

JN110804 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2030 GMT 10 Jul 84

[From the "Panorama" program]

[Text] The PFLP-GC held a press conference in Damascus this evening during which it presented to journalists the three Israeli prisoners detained by the Front. Dr Herbert Amry, Austrian ambassador in Athens, is currently holding contacts with the PFLP-GC and the Israeli authorities on the exchange of Palestinian and Israeli prisoners.

Fatah Officials Visit PLA Forces in Iraq

JN102015 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Brothers Abu al-Hawl [Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid] and Abu al-Adib [Salim az-Za'nun], members of the Fatah Central Committee, visited the camp of the Palestine Liberation Army in Iraq yesterday. They were accompanied by Brother 'Azzam al-Ahmad, PLO representative in Iraq. They met with the officers, fighters, and cadres of the Palestinian forces.

Abu al-Hawl addressed them by reviewing the latest developments in the Palestinian arena on all levels and the repercussions of the intra-Palestinian dialogue during its recent session in Aden. He referred to the size of the obstacles and the amount of pressure that were exerted by some Arab regimes against certain sides of the dialogue in order to foil it and prevent it from achieving its national objectives. He said that Fatah confronted these attempts and was able to undermine them with a high spirit of national responsibility. He added that due to its accurate understanding of the nature of these repercussions, Fatah was able to come out successfully from the dialogue and to reach an initial agreement on the various issues which were under discussion. This was a preliminary step to finally signing this agreement in the first half of this month.

Abu al-Hawl praised the efforts of the brothers in both Algeria and the PDRY which effectively contributed toward removing the numerous difficulties and obstacles that were obstructing reaching an agreement.

Austrian Minister Denies Palestinian Initiative

GF111157 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0945 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Kuwait, 11 Jul (WAKH) — Austrian Foreign Minister Erwin Lanc has denied recent reports that his country will make a new initiative to settle the Palestinian issue. He said that the current circumstances do not permit the proposal of any serious initiative because Washington is busy with the presidential election and because of the slackness in the Egyptian-Israeli relations.

In a statement published by the Kuwaiti newspaper *AS-SIYASAH* today, the Austrian minister also denied reports published recently on informal talks held, with the knowledge of the Austrian Government, between Palestinian and Israeli parties and attended by academicians, diplomats, and journalists from outside the official cadres.

Regarding his country's position toward the Iraq-Iran war he affirmed that Austria's policy is based on neutrality toward the two countries. He denied that his country is ready to supply Iran with arms and said that the Austrian law prohibits the export of arms to conflict areas.

PLO Educational Conference Ends Meeting

JN091812 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 9 Jul 84

[Text] The Higher Palestinian Council for Education, Culture, and Science ended its 12th session yesterday. During the 2-day session, the participants discussed educational and cultural issues in the occupied homeland. Several issues were raised, including the role of the PLO in this field, the role of higher education in the struggle for liberation, the general policy of education, and the links which must exist among the various institutions.

Military Operations in Southern Lebanon Reported

JN071726 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 7 Jul 84

[Text] The joint Palestinian-Lebanese nationalist resistance men have resumed their operations against the Zionist occupation forces in southern Lebanon. Using machine guns and rockets, a group of the resistence men attacked a Zionist military patrol on a road near the city of Tyre in southern Lebanon. This daring attack resulted in destroying a military jeep, hitting another truck, and killing or wounding several Zionist personnel.

Ambulances and helicopters were seen rushing to the area to evacuate the casualties. A Zionist military spokesman admitted this daring operation. He said that the Israeli forces combed the area and the neighboring orchards, and launched an arrest campaign against citizens on the pretext of interrogating them.

Another group of the joint Palestinian-Lebanese nationalist resistance men attacked another Zionist military patrol while it was crossing a road in Al-Bazuriyah-Wadi Jilu. The attack, which was carried out with machine guns and handgrenades, resulted in killing or wounding several enemy soldiers.

The Zionist spokesman who admitted the operation refused to admit the casualties in his ranks. He said that the Israeli forces cordoned the area immediately and launched a large-scale search campaign for the attackers. However, the search was in vain.

Israeli Patrol Attacked Near Sidon

JN081722 Bagdhad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 8 Jul 84

[Text] Southern Lebanon — Using machineguns and rockets, a joint Palestinian-Lebanese nationalist resistance group attacked a Zionsit military patrol on the Sidon road yesterday. The attack killed or wounded several soldiers of the Zionist patrol.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation and, as usual, refused to admit its losses. He said that his forces launched an immediate campaign to search for the resistance men, who returned safely to base.

Second Attack Near Sidon

JN091808 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 9 Jul 84

[Text] The joint Palestinian-Lebanese nationalist resistance men yesterday attacked a Zionist military patrol on Sidon road in occupied southern Lebanon using machine guns and hand grenades and wounding and killing a number of the Zionist patrol. The Zionist military spokesman who admitted the operation claimed that one Zionist soldier was wounded in this attack. The Zionist spokesman said that his forces immediately launched a large-scale search campaign for the resistance men but were not successful.

Continued Reportage on 10 Jul OPEC Meeting

Libyan, Indonesian Officials Elected

LD101222 Vienna OPECNA in English 1124 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Vienna, 10 July 84 (OPECNA) — Libyan Secretary of Oil Kamil Hasan al-Maqhur was today re-elected as president of the OPEC conference, while Indonesia Minister of Mines and Energy Subroto was re-elected as alternate president.

The election was held at the opening session of the 70th OPEC conference meeting, which began here today.

President Addresses Opening Sesion

LD101219 Vienna OPECNA in English 1022 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Vienna, 10 July 84 (OPECNA) — OPEC should continue to demonstrate its sense of discipline, solidarity and responsibility towards the current world oil situation, which, as in the past when facing a challenge, has stood the organization in good stead, OPEC oil ministers were told here today.

Opening the 70th OPEC ministerial conference, Libyan Secretary of Oil Kamil Hasan al-Maqhur and president of the 69th conference, said the meeting was being held at a time when OPEC oil was under increasing pressure from oil supplies of other producers.

Al-Maqhur noted that although there had been definite signs of a halt in the trend of sharply falling demand for OPEC oil, which had started in 1980, there were as yet no signs indicating a reversal. Oil demand was still weak and the much talked about economic recovery had not been fully reflected in an increased demand for oil, he added.

He said most major non-OPEC oil producers did not exercise any restraint over their production in an endeavour to support OPEC's efforts to stabilize the market, to the contrary, many of them had increased output. As an example, he noted that during the first five months of this year, oil production from both Britain and Norway had increased by about 13.5 percent compared to the same period last year, even though total output by non-OPEC producers rose by only 3.2 percent.

He said this had been done at the expense of OPEC's share in the world oil market, as non-OPEC countries were not subjected to any discipline and control on prices and production, as those which OPEC members had imposed on themselves. The actions of those countries had greatly contributed to destabilizing the market and (?aggravating) the situation of oversupply, which characterized the present period, he said.

Another source of pressure on OPEC oil was the significant drawdown on stocks of the industrialized countries, especially during the first quarter of the year.

Despite these developments, OPEC had succeeded in stabilizing the market, Al-Maqhur said, adding that the organization, first and foremost, had succeeded due to its sense of responsibility and foresight to make sacrifices.

"At the risk of slowing down the development momentum of our countries with all the socio-economic problems that could arise, we restrained our production in order to defend the oil price structure," he said, adding that the resulting fall in oil revenues had led, in face of rising costs of development, to unprecedented accumulated financial deficits.

"Hence, OPEC as a group, single-handedly paid the price for stability of the oil market that all are enjoying today," he said.

The strict adherence to its agreements and the maintenance of cohesion within the organization was, according to the most effective instrument of OPEC's success.

Among OPEC's actions, which contributed to this success, was the organization's endeavours to create a condition for cooperation with some of the major non-OPEC producers, among them Mexico, whose attitude clearly stood out as an example of responsible international behaviour. Mexico, he said, had unilaterally declared a policy not to exceed a daily crude export of 1.5 million barrels, which, by itself, was a positive factor indicating support for OPEC.

It was OPEC's policy to create a conducive atmosphere for cooperation and dialogue with non-OPEC oil producers, who, according to Al-Maqhur should seriously consider the long-term advantages, because without such cooperation the market could not hold.

Obviously, non-OPEC producers have succeeded in the short-term to get a higher share in the shrinking market, but this situation could not be expected to continue unaltered for long, he warned.

Further on President's Speech

LD101233 Vienna OPECNA in English 1128 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Vienna, 10 July 84 (OPECNA) — OPEC's efforts towards a dialogue between oil producers and consumers should be increased, since one cannot do without the other, Libyan Secretary of Oil Kamil Hasan al-Maqhur said. He told the opening session of the OPEC conference here today that "we must create the conditions for close cooperation between producers and consumers, an objective clearly spelled out in our statute and a policy which we, in OPEC, have consistently called for".

Al-Maqhur, who was re-elected OPEC conference president, said history showed that developments in the last 10 years had underlined the need for better producer-consumer relations in an atmosphere devoid of suspicion. "Our willingness for a dialogue with consumers has been clearly and publicly expressed several times in the past and we, on our part, appreciate the initiative expressed by some consumer governments to lay the ground for better contact for the benefit of the world," he said. He said it was regrettable that some Western consumer countries had different views about this, which could benefit no one.

"Just as consumers depend on us for their oil needs, so do we depend on their demand for our oil and their technology for our development," he stressed. "It is an interdependent world and

this is a fact that must be appreciated and accepted by all. The economic problems being faced by most countries of the world today can be effectively reduced with higher growth rates of world trade between producers and consumers," he added.

Al-Maqhur said OPEC countries were meeting at a time when there were increasing indications that an economic revival had begun in the industrialized countries and, slow as it might be, the result of such a recovery should be increased oil consumption, giving rise to increased future oil demand. According to al-Maqhur it was difficult to evaluate the extent to which oil conservation and substitution measures launched by industrialized countries would permanently affect oil demand. He warned that one should not be too optimistic about forecasts that the second half of this year would be characterized by significant higher demand. "Nevertheless, it is important that there should be a clear understanding as to how a possible higher demand should be shared between OPEC and other producers," al-Maqhur said, adding that in the final analyses, market stability, based on a fair distribution of gains from improved world oil trade, was a common long-term objective.

He said that market stability had a price which should be paid by all those who benefit from it and not by OPEC alone.

He warned that OPEC's endeavour to ensure the stability of the market in the face of difficulties should not be taken for granted. "We have ably demonstrated our resolve to surmount any difficulties in the way of our concerted effort to maintain an equilibrium in the market. Others must, however, have their share of the sacrifice too", he stressed.

Yamani Urges Production Cuts

LD101249 Vienna OPECNA in English 1125 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Vienna, 10 July 84 (OPECNA) — We should not expect any changes in prices or OPEC production quotas after today's OPEC conference, Saudi Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Ahmad Zaki Yamani said here as the meeting was about to begin. Yamani said the last quarter of this year would witness an increased demand for OPEC oil and "therefore, we have to meet for that — end of September, early October is not bad, because this is the beginning of the fourth quarter". The extent of the demand, he said, would depend on whether it is a severe or mild winter, the state of the economy and whether it continues going up and whether it reflects on the European economy or not — "but it will increase, yes".

"But first we have to reduce our production and bring it down to the ceiling of 17.5 million b/d and no nore, and with this we will solve the floating oil now in the market."

He said prices on the spot market have been low because OPEC and non-OPEC producers have been over-producing.

Commenting on Nigeria's request to increase its quota, Yamani said: "I am sympathetic to the Nigerian cause. Everything is negotiable and we are starting negotiations now."

Ministers End Second Session

LD102022 Vienna OPECNA in English 1912 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Vienna, 10 July 84 (OPECNA) — OPEC oil ministers ended the second session of the 70th conference meeting here today following consideration of the report of the four-member ministerial market monitoring committee. The monitoring committee, chaired by Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and mineral resources of the United Arab Emirates, met here on Monday.

The OPEC ministers also considered a report on the "five dollar passthrough", dealing with the effect of the five dollar reduction on the price of OPEC's marker crude, especially for the beneficiaries. At their March 1983 meeting in London, the ministers lowered the price of the marker crude from 34 to 29 dollars per barrel.

The ministers will resume their meeting tomorrow morning to discuss production and pricing.

Iranian Oil Minister on Meeting

GF110715 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Interview with Iranian Petroleum Minister Seyyed Mohammad Gharazi by unidentified correspondent of the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Vienna on 10 July — recorded]

[Excerpts] In answer to a question about the discussions over an increase in the OPEC base prices by $5 per barrel and also about selection of the new secretary general of OPEC from Iran, Engineer Gharazi said:

[Begin recording] [Seyyed Mohammad Gharazi] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Hail to the imam of ummah and the always-on-the scene ummah of the imam. The main Iranian aim in the latest OPEC conference is to raise the issue of the $5 increase and to follow our previous theories. (?At the start), we stated that bringing the price of oil down will under no circumstances generate demand and will only result in a loss to the producers. (?In the latest confrontations) we again raised the issue and [words indistinct] statistics and by offering a detailed report to the conference, we stated that the reduction in the oil prices did not increase world oil production and that the $5 just benefitted companies and (?the Western and European countries). A number of countries support the Iranian proposal and it is under discussion. However, since the governments who brought down the prices have arranged the market — during the present conference's duration — so that the free market oil prices are below that of OPEC and below $29. They are scaring others about discussing this $5 and many countries are concerned about how to maintain the $29 level. Their argument has always been that the [words indistinct] quotas should be maintained: Those who should maintain the prices must continue to do so. That is to say, those who control the market by their production — this has been the domain of Saudi Arabia — should carry out their duty. However, Saudi Arabia should not produce more than 5

Iranian attacks on Kuwaiti tankers, is linked to previous stands because Kuwaiti-Soviet relations are not new but rather old, dating back to the time of independence. Hence this reply is a policy and not a mere political act. However, what has taken place and what is taking place in the region as a result of the Iraq-Iran war and its repercussions gives this visit extraordinary significance. The visit also shows that Kuwait, in trying to seeking legitimate means to defend its security, is implementing a political ideology which has become a tradition — by using a balance to protect freedom because bias or conditional policy means the loss of freedom or the loss of sovereignty and independence, indeed the loss of the free pan-Arab stand.

There is no doubt the Soviet Union has never tried to impose any conditions in its relations with us apart from that it never tries to link its relations with any of its positions or alliances in the region. In other words, the policy and relations with others of the Soviet Union are not directed by a Zionist lobby as is the case in the United States where any U.S. arms to the region needs to receive Israel's approval, such as the deal for U.S. Stinger missiles.

At any rate, Kuwait's independent policy is the other basic aspect of arms we purchase from here and there to defend ourselves and to defend independence. Without this, we would be mortgaging ourselves to the superpowers for missiles and other arms to come. But we do not want these missiles or arms because we do not want to lose ourselves and we want to be honest with ourselves because freedom, in essence, has only one face, and this is the basic issue.

AL-ANBA' Urges GCC Diplomatic Relations With USSR

LD111119 Kuwait KUNA in English 1016 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Kuwait, July 11 (KUNA) — Kuwait daily *AL-ANBA'* urged Wednesday the Gulf Cooperation Council states to establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union and the eastern block. *AL-ANBA'* stressed that there is no logical reason not to establish relations with the Soviet Union.

The prevailing situations require exchange of relations between the U.S.S.R. and the Gulf states, the paper elaborated, adding that establishing relations with the Soviet Union does not mean "painting the Gulf with red colour," nor being "biased" to the "eastern bloc." However, the paper asserted, the absence of such relations will create impressions about the GCC being "biased" to "Western bloc."

The daily [words indistinct] will to the current visit of Kuwait's Defence Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah saying it should be "invested" militarly and politically to a maximum. The balanced policy of Kuwait ought to reflect practiclly on a unified Gulf stand of the GCC, it added. Furthermore, the paper said Shaykh Salim's visit to Moscow affirms Kuwait's balanced policy toward the West and East adding that it assures Kuwait's concern to keep the Gulf away from "international polarization."

"This is the practical guarantee to keep the region away from foreign intervention," the paper remarked.

AL-ANBA' concluded stressing that the world diplomatic norms and international political logic as well as developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war require establishing diplomatic relations between the GCC states and the Soviet Union.

Al-Qadhdhafi Envoy Arrives With Message

LD110809 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0714 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 11 Jul (KUNA) — An envoy of Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi arrived here today to convey a message to Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah. The Libyan envoy, Muftah al-'Usta 'Umar, visiting Kuwait for one day, told KUNA the message concerns the current Arab situation and what Arab states ought to do in the future, particularly that there is a danger threatening them all. He pointed out that if the Arab states do not unite to confront this danger they will be headed for destruction. He denied his tour, which began with a visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, concerns the Iraq-Iran war or calling for the Arab summit scheduled to be held in Riyadh, which has been postponed more than once.

The Libyan envoy, who arrived on board a special flight, was welcomed on arrival by Kuwaiti minister of Social Affairs, Labor and Housing Hamad 'Isa ar-Rujayb.

Meets With Foreign Minister

LD111002 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0905 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Kuwait, 11 Jul (KUNA) — The deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, received at 0930 hours this morning at his office in the Ministry of Information the secretary of the General People's Congress in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, Dr Muftah al-'Usta 'Umar, and the accompanying delegation in the presence of Minister of Social Affairs, Labor, and Housing Hamad 'Isa ar-Rujayb, and Libyan Ambassador to Kuwait Husni Salih al-Mudir.

During the meeting bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries and a number of questions of mutual interest were discussed.

Japan Envoy Shown Dangers of Support for Iran

LD101428 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1240 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Kuwait, 10 Jul (KUNA) — The head of the Political Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Khalid Ja'far, conferred today with Japanese Ambassador to Kuwait Jiro Aiko.

Mr Ja'far told KUNA that during the meeting discussions included relations between the two countries and developments in the region, at the forefront of which is the Iraq-Iran war.

He said he told the ambassador Kuwait would like Japan to exert more efforts to find an immediate end for the war, and put all its weight behind this purpose, and use its relations with the Iranians to persuade them to sit at the negotiating table with the Iraqis to end the conflict between them.

On the other hand, KUNA learned Mr Ja'far drew the attention of Ambassador Aiko to the dangers of a continuation of Japanese support for Iran. Japan's adoption of this position, and its assistance to Tehran and continued buying of Iranian oil — all will encourage the Tehran government to continue the war and insist on rejecting all the exerted efforts to end it.

It has been learned Mr Ja'far also explained to the ambassador that to continue this Japanese position means Tokyo is risking its vast interests with the Arab world in general, and with countries of the Arabian Gulf in particular.

As part of this concern, it was mentioned the ambassador stressed to the head of the Political Department Japan is continuing to make efforts with the Tehran government, and Tokyo has not abandoned its role in this field, and it is making its efforts "silently and without any media noise."

SAUDI ARABIA

Meeting with Libyan Secretary

LD102102 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] This evening King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received at the royal palace Dr Muftah al-'Usta 'Umar, secretary general of the Libyan People's congress, who arrived in the Kingdom with a message for his majesty the king from President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi concerning affairs of the Arab region and all that could promote good and advantages to it.

During this meeting his majesty the king expressed the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's eagerness to unify stances and close ranks, thus enlisting all its resources to achieve Arab and Islamic solidarity that would preserve this nation's dignity and rights in an atmosphere of fraternity and cooperation, which would profoundly aid the issues of this nation and joint well-being.

The meeting was attended by his royal highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; the minister of state and member of the Cabinet, Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud; and Libyan charge d'affaires to the Kingdom Muhammad al-Bahiy.

Sudan's Foreign, Information Ministers To Arrive

LD101527 Riyadh SPA in English 1226 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Jidda, July 10, SPA — A Sudanese delegation which includes Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman and Information Minister 'Ali Muhammad Shammu is expected to arrive here next Tuesday to deliver a message from President Ja'far Numayri to HM King Fahd, it was reported today. The delegation, which will also visit other member countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), will have talks with Saudi officials on matters of common interest.

UAE

AL-ITTIHAD Accuses Foreign Force of Hitting UK Ship

GF110851 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0730 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Excerpt] In the UAE, *AL-ITTIHAD* warned the tanker war will not end before Western forces interfere in the Gulf affairs and control sea traffic in it. It said this is one of the worst objectives of this war. It added the United States is sending military patrols from its fleets to defend U.S. tankers with the pretext the oil tankers in the Gulf are continuously subjected to attacks.

The newspaper referred to the attack on a British ship yesterday and expressed astonishment because this tanker was hit while it was trying to salvage an Iranian oil shipment in a Swiss tanker struck a few days ago near Khark Island. It said most sources confirmed this attack was launched by an unidentifiable jet fighter.

Commenting on this unidentifiable jet fighter, the newspaper said the fact the fighter is unidentifiable, as was the situation in several previous cases, indicates a third party other than Iran and Iraq is striving to escalate this war for the purpose of maintaining a state of tension in the Gulf. It said it is difficult to imagine either Iraq or Iran launching this attack against the British ship *Renown*. The newspaper said Iran, as is known, is struggling to break the blockade on its oil and it cannot be believed it has hit a ship which came to salvage one of its oil shipments. Also, Iraq specified a limited area of operations for its Air Force to prevent the export of Iranian oil.

The newspaper called for putting an end to this war between two neighboring Muslim countries and affirmed that all the calamities in the Gulf are due to it. It called for stopping this war to prevent this unidentifiable party from carrying out its designs in the Gulf by using the war.

Brazil Stops Importing UAE Crude Oil

GF091047 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 9 Jul 84 p 1

[By Ahmad Hassan]

[Text] Brazil has discontinued the import of crude oil from the UAE and Libya. The reason for stopping the imports, according to Brazilian officials is that both the UAE and Libya are not importing Brazilian goods. According to sources at the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, the Brazilian Government has clamped down on the import of crude from the UAE from the first of this month.

Mr Carlos Santana, the director for trade at the national oil company of Brazil, Petrobas, is reported to have written to the UAE authorities that his country was adopting a special policy with regard to oil imports. Brazil had decided to import oil only from those countries which purchased Brazilian exports.

It was also confirmed that the Brazilian imports from Mexico had also been reduced considerably. Sources indicate that the Brazilians who increased their imports from Mexico after the

Gulf war started have now decreased their imports from Mexico by almost 30 per cent.

Brazil was the largest South American importer of crude oil from Iraq and Iran. It was estimated that Brazilian imports in 1980 alone accounted for several million barrels of oil daily from the Gulf. When the war started in September 1980, the Brazilians started to import substantial quantities of crude from the UAE, Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

Informed sources disclosed that the Brazilians have also stopped importing crude oil from Qatar and Iraq. The reasons given for curtailing the imports are identical. Meanwhile, it is indicated that Brazil would continue to import oil from Saudi Arabia and Iran. According to Brazilian officials, the trade relations between Brazil and these countries are deemed satisfactory.

Finance Minister Notes Budget Allocations

GF101250 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 10 Jul 84 PP 1, 14

[Excerpts] Ahmad At-Ta'ir, UAE minister of state for financial and industrial affairs, told *AL-BAYAN* the budget of the current year includes 3.9 billion dirhams for wages and salaries against the 4.36 billion dirhams last year, while 2.47 billion dirhams were allocated for the current expenses against 2.8 billion dirhams of last year and 151 million dirhams for fixed expenses against 160 million dirhams of last year.

The budget includes 6.85 billion dirhams for defense, the same as last year; while 2.25 billions dirhams were allocated for total funds against 2.29 billion last year. The total funds include 800 million dirhams for external aid, the same as last year.

A total of 211 million dirhams were allocated for financial investments against 495 million dirhams of last year.

The deficit of this year's budget totals 4.37 million dirhams against 5.461 million dirhams last year.

Ahmad At-Ta'ir expected the budget to register at the end of the year the same projected deficit figure in light of the continuation of the oil market situation, oil prices and the pressure of funds allocations.

'Ali Confers With U.S. State Department Official
NC102122 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2100 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Cairo, 10 Jul (MENA) — Acting Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali this evening received U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Robert Pelletreau, who is currently visiting Cairo. During the meeting they discussed the situation in the Middle East and exchanged views on the situation in the Gulf, on the Iran-Iraq war, and on the situation in Lebanon. Pelletreau's visit to Cairo winds up his tour of Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, and Israel.

Former Japanese Foreign Minister Arrives
NC110720 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0711 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 11 Jul (MENA) — Masayoshi Ito, former Japanese foreign minister and chairman of the Japanese-Egyptian Friendship Society, arrived in Cairo this morning on a 3-day visit. Ito stated on arrival he is carrying a special message from Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone to President Husni Mubarak.

French President Mitterrand To Arrive in Cairo
NC110535 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] At 1300 today, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak will receive French President Francois Mitterrand at Cairo International Airport. The Egyptian and French presidents' talks are expected to deal with bilateral relations, international issues of common interest, the Middle East situation, and efforts exerted to establish a comprehensive and just peace in the area. The talks will also deal with African issues, foremost among which is the Chadian situation.

The two presidents will hold a press conference at Cairo International Airport upon conclusion of their talks.

Mubarak Receives Ugandan Defense Minister
NC101216 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1120 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Cairo, 11 Jul (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this afternoon received Paulo Muwanga, Ugandan vice president and defense minister, presently visiting Cairo. The meeting was attended by Sylvanco Baguma, Uganda's ambassador in Cairo. The Ugandan vice president arrived in Cairo from Rome on 7 July for a few days' visit.

Envoy Ghurbal Arrives from Washington
NC101323 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Cairo, 10 Jul (MENA) — Dr Ashraf Ghurbal, Egyptian ambassador in Washington, arrived in Cairo this afternoon for 3 weeks. Ghurbal is expected to hold consultations with officials in Egypt. He will also review the results of his contacts with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and senior U.S. State Department officials on the latest developments of the situation in the Gulf and Lebanon; on the conditions in the occupied West Bank and Gaza; and the significance of giving impetus to the peace process in the Middle East.

Al-Baz Interviewed on Mideast Situation, Gulf War
NC110850 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0735 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Cairo, 11 Jul (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and head of the President's Office for Political Affairs, stressed Egypt's course for the sake of peace in the region does not contradict the convocation of an international conference in Geneva under UN auspices, provided it includes Jordanian and Palestinian elements ['anasir].

In an interview published today by the weekly magazine *AKHIR SA'AH*, Dr al-Baz stresses that such a conference, to be based on UN resolutions 242 and 338, will not contradict the Camp David agreements, particularly as these agreements are based on these two resolutions. He says Egypt's first step is for the solution to be comprehensive.

He adds that, after studying all the proposals and initiatives proposed to solve the problems of the area, Egypt has ascertained that all initiatives have a common ground because they have considered the Palestinian issue as the crux of the problem.

Dr al-Baz talks about the recently exchanged messages between Presidents Husni Mubarak and Ronald Reagan. He says there are always consultations between the two presidents and consultations at this stage concern the Middle East problem. He points out the messages focused on the need for an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon in accordance with an agreed upon firm timetable, while considering the entire problem cannot be solved except by having a just and comprehensive solution for the Palestinian issue, which we consider as the root to the problem in the area.

In his interview, Dr al-Baz deals with the Egyptian initiative to bring the Gulf war to an end. He says Egypt will undertake a second step within the coming weeks. He adds that India, in its capacity as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement at this stage, has a special role to play to achieve progress towards stopping this war and starting diplomatic negotiations.

Dr al-Baz points out the aim of the Egyptian initiative is to fulfill practical and reasonable demands of both the Iraqi and Iranian sides, without bias, so as to produce a response from each side. He says the important thing is to choose the appropriate time.

With regard to the situation in Lebanon, Dr al-Baz expressed Egypt's satisfaction with the agreement reached among all parties there. He said Egypt hopes the security plan will develop into lasting stability. Dr al-Baz affirmed that Egypt is prepared to cooperate with the Lebanese Government to reach an agreement with Israel regarding security measures and Israel's withdrawal in accordance with a new timetable.

In his interview, Dr al-Baz commended the situation prevailing on the Palestinian arena, stressing that the Aden agreement among the Palestinian groups is bound to bring about the convocation of the PNC meeting.

He said PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and certain Palestinian leaders have pursued a moderate line when they some time ago declared their preparedness to recognize Israel, provided this be mutual and simultaneous. Dr al-Baz called for utilizing and encouraging this moderate line which has not enjoyed world interest. This was however met with provocative and negative Israeli reactions, such as recent acts of naval piracy, arbitrary measures against the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza strip, and intensification of settlements.

On Egyptian-Soviet relations, Dr Al-Baz said the exchange of ambassadors was inevitable, adding the Soviet Union and its concerns in the area cannot be ignored. He added that Egypt is keen on having good and normal relations with all countries despite their ideological trends.

Ghali Interviewed on Relations With France, USSR

NC110857 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0830 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Paris, 11 Jul (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, described Egyptian-French relations in various political, economic and cultural fields as excellent, particularly as Egypt has become an active member of the cooperation association of French speaking countries.

Dr Ghali said the visit by Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense, to Paris — which ended 2 days ago — confirmed that French-Egyptian relations are not confined to trade. Cooperation exists in various fields, particularly in the military and arms fields.

In an interview today with France-Inter Radio, Dr Ghali dealt with Egyptian-Soviet relations. He said the improvement and development of relations between Cairo and Moscow should be understood as being within the context of the nonaligned policy pursued by Egypt. He added that improvement of Egyptian-Soviet relations could facilitate the bringing about of a solution for the Middle East crisis.

AKHBAR AL-YAWM on Egyptian-Soviet Relations

PM101521 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 7 Jul 84 p 7

[Jalal 'Arif article: "Heart of the Matter"]

[Text] The deterioration of Egyptian-Soviet relations was an abnormal phenomenon harmful to the interests of both sides. The attempt to exclude the Soviets from the region was a mistake detrimental to the Arab cause and has in fact brought the efforts to promote a comprehensive settlement to a dead end.

For 20 years after the July Revolution, we had a unique experience in dealing with the Soviets on the basis of deep friendship and common interests. That opened the way for cooperation with the socialist states and the Third World. The Soviets helped us implement our ambitious development plans and build the Egyptian Army at a time when others withheld arms from us and gave arms generously to our enemies, refused to help us build up our industries and develop our agriculture, and even imposed on us a famine war by withholding everything from wheat to medicine. Our experience with the Soviets was profound. During that experience we maintained our independent line. We differed several times and there were crises between us at times but that did not prevent the continuation and strengthening of our cooperation in the face of endless plots against Egypt and the Arab nation.

Then the events of the seventies occurred. We placed 99 percent of the cards in the hands of the United States, Camp David happened, and we joined the U.S. strategy in the region based on the assumption the Soviet threat is the only threat and the Arabs and Israel should cooperate with the United States in resisting that threat. While we were busy trying to convince the United States we could play the part of U.S. policeman in the area, the United States was busy consolidating its strategic agreement with Israel, its natural and only ally in the region. Naturally Israel capitalized on the situation by swallowing up the occupied Arab territory, trying to annihilate the Palestinian people, invading Lebanon, and trying to humiliate the Arab nation and control its resources.

That situation could not have continued. During the past 2 years efforts were made to end the predicament. There were sustained attempts to rectify the situation and restore the upset balance. Egypt reaffirmed that Arabism is not a garment it wears and takes off according to the circumstances, that nonalignment is the irreplaceable choice, that there is no room for foreign military bases on Egyptian territory, and that its people will only fight for the restoration of Arab rights. When President Mubarak stood up in front of the White House to declare that there can be no peace without the restoration of all the Palestinian people's rights, that was the signal the rectification of our foreign policy was well underway and it confirmed that Egypt makes its decisions independently despite internal difficulties and foreign pressure.

The question of Egypt's relations with Moscow was bound to be raised and that led to the thaw, the return of ambassadors, and the beginning of a new stage we hope will be based on sound foundations. We hope both sides will avoid past mistakes and turn with open hearts and minds to the matter of strengthening the positive aspects of their relations.

We have ambitious plans for independent development and greater production without subservience or massive debts and we also have the battle of stopping the deterioration in the region and restoring the balance of powers. Our cooperation with the Soviets can play a part in all that, particularly now that we realize peace cannot be achieved through wishful thinking and prosperity cannot be achieved through the import of video sets. These things can only be achieved with sweat and blood, intrinsic power, independent development with us holding the cards of the game and gearing all our international relations toward serving our objectives without making the mistake of alignment or committing the crime of subservience.

AL-MUSAWWAR Views Egyptian-Soviet Relations

PM101331 Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic 6 Jul 84 pp 4-7

[Chief Editor Makram Muhammad Ahmad article: "A New Chapter in Egyptian-Soviet Relations"]

[Text] I do not think it will be too long before Cairo and Moscow once again restore diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level within a new chapter based on respecting one another's will.

It would be a meaningless flattery if we were to say today that differences between Cairo and Moscow could become nonexistent or disappear. There is no denying there are differences of views between both sides but what matters is that our relations should coexist side by side with our differences and we should, despite the differences, find common grounds on which the mutual interests of both sides could be based.

Since early 1982 Moscow has been trying to put out feelers toward Cairo to see whether the Egyptian and Soviet sides could overcome the crisis of confidence that broke out in relations between the two countries shortly before the October war, after President As-Sadat issued his sudden order expelling the Soviet advisers. The crisis was exacerbated when the Soviets found themselves isolated from efforts aimed at finding a peaceful solution for the Middle East problem.

Initially Moscow's signals came through chance meetings between its own ambassadors and Egyptian ambassadors in Europe. The signals hinted it was time for Soviet-Egyptian relations to return to normal on the basis of mutual respect and interests.

Despite the distances between these capitals the message was one and the same.

The Egyptian ambassador in Paris heard of this desire from the Soviet ambassador there. In Ottawa the Egyptian ambassador heard the same message with the assertion Moscow wishes to confirm to Cairo it does not want its distinctive relations with certain Arab states to be at the expense of its relations with Egypt, particularly since developments in the area encourage both countries to develop their relations to a degree that allows the return of ambassadors.

Cairo's answer to these successive messages was that, despite its disagreement with Moscow over the nature of the reasons that led to the deterioration of relations between the two countries and with Moscow's current policy toward peace efforts, Cairo has no wish to create clash with the Soviet Union; it wishes both sides be able to overcome the crisis and develop correct relations between the two countries. This, however, does not come about by a sudden decision announcing the return of the two ambassadors. Rather this should be preceded by a period of dialogue to identify the points of differences and points of agreement so as to enable both sides to have a clear view of the future attitude of one another.

Cairo made no preconditions for such a dialogue other than insisting on the need for mutual respect and noninterference in one another's affairs as well as an assertion that an improvement in relations between the two countries could be attainable through a number of steps that should precede the exchange of ambassadors. Let the first step be the endeavor to encourage trade and economic relations between Cairo and Moscow and between Cairo and the Eastern European countries in a manner that would serve the equal interests of both sides and then the opening of the door for the exchange of visits between the two countries to strengthen the idea of dialogue.

As a special kind of a feeler, Cairo asked Moscow to honor its commitment to return to Egypt a number of Soviet advisers whose presence was part of the guarantee for some new factories, the safe operation and maintainance of which was the responsibility of the Soviet side.

Cairo's argument was that however deep the political differences may be, they should not affect a definite Egyptian interest, particularly since the guarantee provides for the presence of Soviet advisers for a specific period of time before the Egyptian workforce takes over full responsibility for these factories.

Moscow did respond to Cairo's request and in fact 66 advisers arrived. They spent the period stipulated under the guarantee incorporated in the contract for supplying factories and then returned to their country. But the matter did not pass without a great uproar being created by some Western papers which, arbitrarily and for ulterior motives, saw the return of Soviet experts to Cairo as an indication Egypt wants once again to turn its face toward Moscow and relations with Moscow could improve at the expense of relations between Cairo and Washington.

April 1982 was the date for the final Israeli evacuation from Sinai. President Mubarak earlier rejected a precondition by Menahem Begin he should visit Jerusalem as part of his visit to Israel. This was part of a campaign of heavy pressure on Egypt before April. The assumption was that this is a condition Cairo would be compelled to accept out of the desire the Israelis would fulfill the condition of withdrawal on schedule.

At that time President Mubarak was about to make his first visit to the United States as the President of Egypt. The news of the return of Soviet advisers to Egypt then assumed greater proportions in the U.S. press than its actual importance and questions were being raised in Washington about the policies of the new president who seemed unwilling to link the fate of his country to U.S. policies.

The *CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR* went as far as to say President Mubarak's visit would signal the beginning of cool friendship with the United States, not only because Egypt recalled some Soviet advisers but also because Egypt intends to conclude a deal for the purchase of French Mirage 2000 planes.

It was strange to hear in Washington the following questions being raised during that visit:

Why does President Mubarak seem unwilling to attack or condemn the Soviet Union as President as-Sadat did?

Will the return of 66 Soviet advisers be a prelude to the restoration of relations with Moscow in an attempt to counter-balance the increasing U.S. influence in the area and out of the desire to reduce the special ties between Cairo and Washington?

Why is there this insistence and craving on the part of Egypt to return to playing its pioneering role within the Nonaligned Movement?

These questions could have been looked upon as part of well intentioned efforts to find out more about the personality of the new president had it not been for the poisonous views expressed with the aim of casting doubt on the future of the Egyptian-U.S. relations as part of a campaign of doubt launched by the Israelis under the banner headline they then chose: What will happen in Egypt after 25 April?

Although nobody on the official level discussed with President Mubarak the questions raised in the U.S. press articles, the president nevertheless found this a suitable opportunity to reassert certain facts that might probably be overlooked in the suddenly created uproar.

The most important facts the president had then underlined were:

That Washington should understand with a spirit of friendship, rising above the doubts being cast, that acting fully in accordance with the national decision and its dictates by no means signifies a belittling of the importance of Egyptian-U.S. relations and their special status and does not imply reversing these relations by even a single step.

What serves Egyptian-U.S. relations objectively is not uproar, exaggerated pretensions, the creating of clashes with others, or volunteering campaigns against other parties to demonstrate support and closeness nor are they served by sacrificing national interest out of fear of arousing sensitivies and misunderstanding. Rather, what serves these relations is objective understanding of the requirements of the national will in Egypt.

Nonalignment is Egypt's affiliation and true identity. No one should construe this effort as being contrary to Egyptian-U.S. friendship. If the Nonaligned Movement in the recent past suffered great difficulties which caused it the loss of much of its effectiveness and independence, Egypt's return to its founding role will contribute to strengthening the movement and restoring its purity.

Close U.S.-Egyptian relations are now a subject of joint effort between the two peoples. It is also a choice based on mutual interests and not dependent on individuals however influential they may be.

If ties between the two countries now lie in the U.S. role as a partner in peace and in U.S. economic aid to Egypt, what strengthens these ties is that the United States should understand the nature of the Egyptian role in the area. This is because a strong Egypt is a security guarantee for the area and because confronting the external threat to the area, whatever its nature may be, should first and foremost take the form of strengthening the countries of the area themselves and enabling them to acquire an adequate deterrent strength that would enable them to protect their external security.

We asked for the return of the Soviet advisers because this is in the interest of our country. Certain old contracts with the Soviets provided for the building of a number of factories and for a number of Soviet advisers to take part in building them. It is inconceivable a number of Egyptian factories remain idle when we are aspiring for the achievement of real progress for Egyptian citizens by increasing our productivity. Egypt preferred to announce the arrival of Soviet advisers "now" instead of announcing it later so we would not fuel the question: What next after next April [in Egypt]?

The essence of the message President Mubarak wanted to convey to the U.S. side was that Egyptian policy would not be swinging left and right like a pendulum, influenced by provisional or personal options and that if there are distinctive relations between Egypt and the United States these relations should not be a hindrance to Egypt's natural relations with all parties.

Indeed Egypt's vanguard position in the Arab world makes it incumbent upon it to maintain balanced relations with the two superpowers. The Arab world has suffered a lot from the dangers of polarization that divided its powers into two major streams, one stream bent on establishing close ties with Washington at the expense of natural relations with Moscow and another bent on establishing close relations with Moscow at the expense of natural relations with Washington. That Egypt's role in the area might be acceptable it should have acceptable relations with Moscow without these relations detracting at all from the distinctive relations with Washington. This would be a major contribution to maintaining better relations with all Arab regimes. In the final analysis it is an Egyptian historical responsibility to deal with the disruption and lack of solidarity from which our Arab world is suffering.

To be fair, Washington never objected to having normal relations between Cairo and Moscow. To be fair, when recently some U.S. congressmen advocated the idea that the resumption of Egypt's relations with Moscow at ambassadorial level should be an opportunity for Egypt to resume its relations with Israel at ambassadorial level and when Egypt's clear reply was that Cairo sees no relationship between the two matters, particularly since the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Israel is conditional on the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon and tangible progress in solving the problem of Tabah, the U.S. Administration did not object to the Egyptian stand despite Israel's insistence to Washington it should support the demand raised by some U.S. congressmen.

That was in 1983. The dialogue between Cairo and Moscow was conducted quietly over several visits between the two capitals. Moscow expressed the belief there was a need for a preparatory stage during which the two sides would explore the future of their relations while fundamental differences between the two sides continued. The mutual conviction that stress should be laid on economic relations was already on its way to implementation. In November of the same year a Soviet economic and trade delegation led by Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Grishin arrived in Cairo. The talks lasted a week and covered economic relations.

The Soviet delegation also signed an Egyptian-Soviet protocol increasing the volume of trade between the two sides by 25 per cent to reach 500 million pounds sterling.

It was clear that year the Soviets were willing to turn over a new leaf. The Soviet media's criticism and defamation campaigns gave way to a new tone in many articles which spoke of the need to overcome the situation which prevailed at the time. The most significant article was written by Soviet journalist Belyayev who stressed that the current difficulties in Egyptian-Soviet relations should be overcome particularly since these relations had at various stages gone through similar crises and some degree of misunderstanding but the interests of both sides had ultimately dictated these differences should be ironed out. He also said no one could doubt the patriotism of the present Egyptian leadership and that the Soviet leadership appreciated several recent stands taken by the Egyptian Government.

The dialogue went one step further when Presidential Assistant Mamduh Salim and Ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid, who was assistant foreign minister at the time, went to Moscow to attend the funeral of the late Soviet President Andropov. Despite the occasion, the Egyptian delegation was given a warm welcome and the meaningful signal that Vasiliy Kuznetsov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo candidate member and [first] deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet [Presidium], was looking forward to meeting with the delegation. During that meeting, held in a Kremlin hall, Kuznetsov reaffirmed Moscow's willingness to overcome the situation and improve relations with Egypt. At the end of the meeting, Ambassador Polyakov, who was Soviet ambassador in Egypt before the crisis and who attended the meeting in his capacity as director of the Middle East Department at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, whispered in Ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid's ear that the occasion did not permit any talks with any of the visiting delegations except the U.S. and Egyptian delegations. It was agreed during the meeting that Polyakov would be invited to visit Egypt.

In Cairo the talks with Polyakov were frank. He arrived in Feburary and met with [Minister of State for Foreign Affairs] Dr Butrus Ghali, [presidential adviser] Ambassador Usamah al-Baz, and a numbe of Egyptian Foreign Ministry officials. Cairo was determined to cross all the t's and dot all the i's. Polyakov heard the following from the Egyptian side:

1. That the Egyptian political leadership is not governed by any residual complexes from the past such as to refuse to have normal relations with the Soviet Union and balanced relations with all world states. However, Cairo's normal relations with Moscow will not rival its special relations with the United States. Just as India, which is one of the pillars of nonalignment, is anxious to maintain its special relations with Moscow and its normal relations with Washington. Egypt, which is another pillar of nonalignment, sees no contradiction between its special relations with Washington and normal relations with Moscow.

2. That an Egyptian political decision to exchange ambassadors with Moscow has already been made but Cairo was waiting for the appropriate time to implement it. It seemed earlier that 1983 was a good time to do so but Cairo chose to postpone the move for a while because it did not want it to coincide with the failure of the U.S. efforts in Lebanon. The decision to restore relations with Moscow at ambassadors level was a necessary decision as such and should not be wrongly seen as a reflection of Egypt's reaction to the U.S. failure in Lebanon.

3. That Egypt did not exclude the Soviet Union from settlement efforts and the Soviet Union perhaps committed a grave mistake, to its own discredit, when it turned against the Cairo conference. This is not time to open old wounds. The Soviets must realize Egypt is not against the idea of an international conference to find a just settlement in the Middle East with the participation of all parties concerned. Egypt probably even went further when it approved in principle the Soviet proposal calling for an international conference. The problem, however, is that preparation for such a conference requires approval of both superpowers, something which may not be possible at present in view of the deteriorating relations between Moscow and Washington.

4. That it was impossible for Cairo to remain idle and do nothing while waiting for such an international conference — and we all know the obstacles standing in the way of such a conference — and while the Israelis were relentlessly trying to completely change the face of the West Bank and the Gaza strip. If Cairo were to remain idle the rights and future of the Palestinians would merely be the subject of futile theoretical discussions because a fait accompli would be imposed in the form of towns and settlements which would devour the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

5. That Cairo was looking forward to a new chapter of relations based on respect for the will of each side. It would be a meaningless courtesy to say the differences between Cairo and Moscow would vanish and disappear. Differences undeniably exist between Cairo and Moscow. What is important is that our relations should coexist with our differences of opinion.

An important question remains: Why establish relations with Moscow now and to what extent will this step affect Egypt's internal political options?

It may be useful to state right at the outset that the question of establishing diplomatic relations with Moscow at ambassadorial level was not an issue in the election arguments among the various Egyptian political parties. Everyone from right to left wanted relations to be restored in a way that would guarantee Egypt adequate and balanced international relations. This consensus reflected a mature understanding of the nature and significance of Egypt's role throughout history. Egypt always had balanced relations with the world's two pillars. Egypt's position dictated a policy which in itself was a point of vigorous discussion and argument between the two conflicting pillars. It happened between the Persians and the Byzantines and between France and Britain before the United States and the Soviet Union became the two world pillars.

In the Middle East, the experience of the past 10 years proved beyond a shadow of doubt that it is very risky for any superpower, however sincere and serious, to unilaterally absorb the extremely complex problems of the region. The first danger is polarization which is in fact at present preventing our Arab world from achieving Arab solidarity despite the fact everyone is well aware

of the importance and necessity of such solidarity at this stage. This danger is now spreading to the far ends of our Arab homeland and to the Horn of Africa which is about to become the next hotbed of conflict after the Gulf War. If we look closely at the problems and conflicts in our Arab world we will discover polarization is one of the main factors which intensified differences and finally turned them into armed conflicts which destroyed every possibility of unified Arab action.

Therefore we should ask ourselves the following question: What good is it for the Arab world to antagonize a superpower which is geographically our neighbor and which is around us in the seas and oceans by virtue of the rules of freedom of navigation which govern our complex world?

I do not want to go on and on but let me just mention the example of the Israelis. Ever since their relations with the Soviets were severed after the 1967 war they have been continuously trying to restore relations with Moscow. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir was the first to call for the restoration of Israeli-Soviet relations when he was foreign minister. In fact, Israel has not stopped sending delegations, missions, and individuals to Moscow in a concerted effort to revive dialogue with the Soviets or pave the way for the restoration of relations with them. The latest such attempt was perhaps Shamir's initiative taken during the current election campaign

What does all this mean? It means the interests of states are not based on personal choices and in politics nothing is eternal or everlasting. It means the idea of dialogue with the superpowers should take priority over the idea of conflict with them. I believe however acute our differences with the Soviet Union are, we do have mutual interests which should be preserved. One cannot deny past efforts.

I should perhaps finally say once again that despite the imminent exchange of ambassadors and efforts made by both sides in search of areas of common agreement, the differences will remain and Egypt's internal options will continue to be governed intrinsically by Egypt and its experience. The return of the ambassadors to the two capitals does not in any way carry with it the possibility of restoring a past stage or even parts of it.

Egypt is grown up in its dealing with others. It has learned from its long and bitter experience that a regime based on a one party system is incapable of tackling internal problems comprehensively, that a regime which pursues an economic line which favors the public sector only and ignores the private sector cannot mobilize all national efforts to achieve the development to which it aspires, and finally that national interests are the basis of international relations.

Saddam Husayn Meets With Army Commanders

JN101940 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1740 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] President Saddam Husayn this morning presided at a meeting of some of the members of the Armed Forces' General Command and corps commanders. During the meeting, they studied the situation on the battlefront.

The meeting was attended by Staff General 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, minister of state for military affairs.

Communique No 1,522 on 9-10 Jul Operations

JN101646 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1603 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Communique No 1,522 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 10 July 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With unique courage and a determination stemming from justice and right, the victorious Iraqi forces continue their activities against the forces of the rancorous Iranian enemy. The results for yesterday evening and for today are as follows:

1. One of our combat patrols carried out a successful operation against an enemy force opposite one of our forward units' positions in the central sector of the battlefield, killing two enemy troops and destroying one hardware stockpile. In another area of the same sector, one enemy troop was killed, and one infantry position, one observation post, and one hardware stockpile were destroyed.

2. Our forward units pounded several enemy positions and weapon emplacements in the operational sector east of Basra with all types of weapons, destroying three infantry positions and weapon empalcements, two medium caliber machine guns whose crew were either killed or wounded, one hardware stockpile, and one observation post whose occupants were killed.

3. One vehicle carrying personnel was destroyed in the northern sector of the battlefield.

4. One of our forward units shelled several enemy positions opposite their positions in the Maysan sector, scoring direct hits.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 10 July 1984

Spokesman Says Gulf Maritime Target Destroyed

JN102109 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2056 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. A large maritime target was discovered in the Iranian (Buhurkian) oilfield, in the northeastern Arab Gulf. Our valiant naval force and its daring Air Force attacked it, dealt it a strong and effective blow, and at 2305 [1905 GMT] on the night of 10-11 July 1984 succeeded in destroying it after setting it on fire.

All our naval units and aircraft returned safely and triumphantly to base, praise be to God.

God is great, loftiness and glory to our great Iraq, and shame and ignominy and shame to the charlatans and their suspect henchmen. It is God who grants victory. 11 July 1984.

Iran Said Unable To Launch New Offensive

JN101013 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0545 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Jul (INA) — A local newspaper has affirmed that the Iranian forces' weakness, inability, and fear of the strong Iraqi military position is the reason for the Iranian rulers' hesitation to launch their new offensive against Iraq.

In today's editorial entitled "The Last Arrow," *AL-JUMHURIYAH* says: The Iranian military position is now weaker than at any time before. The aggressive forces are more divided and frustrated and are in no position to achieve their aggressive objectives.

The newspaper adds: On the other hand, Iraq's military power is growing and the Iraqi forces are now larger in number and stronger in equipment. They can draw from an enormous reserve of manpower and equipment.

AL-JUMHURIYAH affirms that the Iraqi Armed Forces are now better equipped, trained, and managed and are also more experienced and prepared.

The newspaper says that Iraq depends not only on its strength, superiority, and the weakness of its enemy, but also on its solid willpower, strong determination, complete alertness, and constant readiness to repulse the enemy in any act of aggression.

The newspaper affirms that the Iranian enemy will not be given the opportunity to achieve any of its hopes or regain its collapsing morale.

AL-JUMHURIYAH warns that Iraq will continue to strike at the enemy in the air, on land, and in the sea. These strikes, the paper says, will be fiercer and each strike will be carried out at the appropriate time.

Concluding, the newspaper says: The Tehran regime's threat to launch a new offensive against Iraq is the last arrow in their quiver. But this arrow will miss its target like all the others. Iraq will then deal its crushing blow.

Tariq 'Aziz on Kuwait Visit, Egyptian Initiative

GF091130 Doha QNA in Arabic 0900 GMT 9 Jul 84

[Text] Kuwait, 9 Jul (QNA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has denied that his recent visit to Kuwait was designed to lease the Kuwaiti islands of Warbah and Bubiyan for tactical reasons.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-ANBA'* from Baghdad published today, Tariq 'Aziz said that the Kuwaiti aid

to his country neither stopped nor will it stop. He added that this aid will not be attenuated even after Egypt launches its peace initiative on the Iraqi-Iranian war. Tariq 'Aziz termed the Egyptian initiative as not being biased toward any of the sides of the war. He stressed that Egypt is a peace-loving Arab country which has its leverage in the Nonaligned Movement and in the United Nations. He also indicated that his country welcomes the Egyptian initiative. He went on to say that the restoration of diplomatic relations between his country and Egypt is subject to the comprehensive Arab framework as expressed through the Arab League.

Report on Baghdad Conference Peace Declaration
JN110933 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1810 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Jul (INA) — An international conference discussing the serious effects of the Gulf war has called for an immediate end to the fighting and the suspension of all military operations to allow the achievement of a just and honorable settlement.

In an appeal issued at the end of its 3-day work called the BaghdadDeclaration for Peace, the conference warned of the material, human, and environmental dangers resulting from the continuation of the fighting.

The conference, which was attended by political figures and representatives of liberation movements from all the continents, emphasized that the principle of just peace must prevail without any obstacles or preconditions.

The meetings of the conference, which was patronized by President Saddam Husayn, were devoted to discussing the serious effects of the war on world peace and security, and the thoughts and ideas which were presented by the various political parties, movements, and international organizations.

The conference affirmed that Iran's conditions for ending the war are impossible, illegitimate, and are therefore rejected. It urgently called on Iran to accept a just and comprehensive peace, give up its conditions in order to spare its peoples from more woe, suffering and further waste of manpower and material resources, and to respect international pacts and agreements.

The conference decided to form a committee to follow up on the achievement of the noble objectives for which it was held and to cooperate with all organizations and committees seeking the attainment of peace between Iraq and Iran.

The conferees expressed their concern over the continuation of the war for almost 4 years and pointed in their declaration to the enormous human losses and vast material damage caused by this war.

The declaration also noted the serious negative effects of the war on the development of the two warring countries and the Gulf region, and warned that this important strategic region might be exposed to the dangers of a foreign military solution conflicting with the legitimate national interests of its countries.

The conference also adopted several resolutions in which it affirmed that bilateral, regional, and international disputes, problems, and conflicts can be solved only through dialogue and negotiations on the basis of right, justice, and mutual respect for the rights, interests, and national sovereignty of states and nations, as well as noninterference in other countries' internal affairs.

The conference called for the continuation and intensification of the efforts which have been exerted by the UN secretary general, the Nonaligned Movement, and the ICO to end the fighting and to achieve a peaceful solution to the Iraqi-Iranian conflict as well as for the implementation of the UN Security Council and General Assembly resolutions in this respect. The conference expressed its appreciation for Iraq's cooperation with the efforts of the international, regional, and UN peace committees to end this war. The conference affirmed that the continuation of this war only serves the imperialists, Zionists, the greedy, and warmongers.

In its resolutions, the conference called on all states and international partes to refrain from any action that might prolong, escalate, or expand the war and to stop all kinds of military and economic dealings with the side that insists on the continuation of the war, and to isolate it political and internationally, and to take effective measures that will prevent it from, or reduce its capability for, continuing the aggression. The conference also decided to include the women of the world in the campaign for peace and to contact women's organizations and societies for the sake of including them in this mission.

Ramadan Sends Message to USSR's Arkhipov
JN101310 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1218 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Moscow, 10 Jul (INA) — Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has received a message from Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi first deputy prime minister.

The message, which deals with bilateral relations and the situation in the Arab arena, was conveyed by Sa'd 'Abd al-Majid al-Faysal, Iraqi ambassador to the USSR, when he was received by Arkhipov today.

Mediterranean Conference Statement Reported
JN101017 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0623 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Belgrade, 10 Jul (INA) — Concluding its work here last night, the conference of progressive parties and organizations in the Mediterranean states called for the need to stop the Iraq-Iran war and to end military hostilities between the two countries.

The participant parties and organizations expressed their readiness to back the international efforts that are being exerted to end this war by peaceful means.

In a press statement issued in Belgrade at the end of its 3-day meetings, the conference also supported the need to back the Palestinian people's struggle and right to determine their own

destiny and to establish their independent state under the leadership of the PLO, their sole, legitimate representative. The conference also condemned imperialist attempts to liquidate the Palestine question.

The statement urges the international community to hold an international conference under the aegis of the United Nations to discuss the critical situation in the Middle East, the withdrawal of all foreign forces, and to find adequate solutions through the restoration of peace to this vital region.

The conference also affirmed the need to back the Lebanese national resistance movement in its struggle to liberate southern Lebanon and Al-Biqa', occupied by the Zionist invasion forces, as well as for the withdrawal of these forces under the UN Security Council resolution which calls for the withdrawal of the invasion forces.

The conferees emphasized the need to turn the Mediterranean Sea basin into a zone of peace and security.

Briefs

New Pakistani, Greek Ambassadors—Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf today received Khalid Mahmud, the new Pakistani ambassador in Baghdad. Later, he received Antonios (Eksarvos), the new Greek ambassador in Baghdad. Discussion during both meetings dealt with Iraq's relations with Pakistan and Greece. [Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1100 GMT 10 Jul 84 JN]

Reportage on Mitterrand Visit Continues

Visits Historical Sites

JN101407 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn and Her Majesty Queen Nur accompanied Jordan's great guest, French President Francois Mitterrand and his wife on a visit to the ancient city of Petra this morning. They were received there by the acting governor of Ma'an, the commander of the southern region, Ma'an's police chief, the subdistrict officer of Wadi Musa, the mayor, and officials in the governorate.

Their Majesties King Husayn and Queen Nur, and Jordan's guests then toured the ancient city, and listened to a briefing by Dr Fawzi az-Zayyadin, assistant of the director of the department of antiquities, in which he talked about the city, and its historical and cultural significance throughout the ages. In his briefing he spoke about the era during which the Arab Nabatean kingdom flourished and had good relations with the Western world. He pointed out that the Nabatean people advocated peaceful coexistence with neighboring people.

The French president expressed interest in France's participation in the exploration, renovation, and study of ancient historical writings in Jordan.

His Majesty King Husayn and Her Majesty Queen Nur also accompanied the French president and his wife on a visit to the ancient city of Jarash.

The second session of official talks between His Majesty King Husayn and President Mitterrand will be held at the Royal Hashemite Court. This session will deal with bilateral relations, and the most significant current international issues of joint interest particularly in the Middle East region.

His Majesty King Husayn and President Mitterrand will hold a joint press conference at 1730 this evening at the Royal Cultural Center, during which they will address local, Arab, and international journalists on the current world issues and their countries' stands on these issues.

The French president and his wife will host a banquet this evening at the French ambassador's residence in honor of His Majesty King Husayn and Her Majesty Queen Nur.

Second Round of Talks Begin

JN101926 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1718 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Amman — The second round of official talks was held between His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency French President Francois Mitterrand at the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon. The talks dealt with bilateral relations and the most important international issues of mutual interest, especially in the Middle East region.

Joint News Conference

JN102037 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1820 GMT 10 Jul 84

["Text" of press conference by King Husayn and French President Francois Mitterrand at the Palace of Culture in Amman on 10 July 1984 — recorded. Mitterrand speaks in French and King Husayn speaks in Arabic and English; questions by correspondents, some of whom are not identified, are in French and Arabic — all fading into superimposed Arabic translation]

[Text] [King Husayn] Good evening ladies and gentlemen. It is indeed a matter of great pride and pleasure for me to meet with you here in Amman today. To begin with, I would like to say how proud I am at spending these precious moments amid this important event currently taking place in Jordan. By this event, I mean the visit of my dear friend, Francois Mitterrand, president of the French Republic, who is paying an official visit to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The president has greeted the Government of Jordan and the Jordanian people and myself. He is the leader of a great nation that has presented to the world a commitment to ideals and principles. We are indeed proud of the very strong ties that exist between us and which have grown over the years; ties based on mutual respect and a real friendship. In expressing these feelings, I do so on behalf of the entire Arab nation.

The Arab nation is well aware of France's role, its ideals, and its principles within France, in the EEC, and in light of the sensitive and critical circumstances through which this region is passing — where the present and the future of its peoples as well as world peace are exposed to danger.

France's stand has prevented the polarization of stands in this region. As a people who seek to safeguard their identity and to secure the livelihood of future generations, we express our appreciation for this French stand, particularly at a time when various means and methods are used in the world. The common practice is that two standards and two scales are used when dealing with different problems, and this applies to the Palestinian problem. We can even view differently the real basis for a just and lasting peace in this region. By this basis, I mean Resolution 242 issued by the UN General Assembly [as heard] in 1967. This formula is not open to any bargaining or any change. It is considered the real basis for peace in this region. In the preamble, everything is clear and the formulation of the resolution calls for the complete withdrawal form the occupied Arab territories. The English and French languages were used. The French text is the most explicit of the two.

With respect to Lebanon, France has offered sacrifices and has exerted persistent efforts to secure a free and independent Lebanon, a sovereign and united Lebanon. Under the wise and dedicated leadership of its president, France has contributed in bringing us closer to this objective.

In confronting another crisis, a crisis all of us are facing at the eastern gate of the Arab world, with the support of our friends and the backing of justice and the ideas seeking to settle the disputes through mutual respect and noninterference in the affairs of others within the framework of the establishment of relations on this basis and by resorting to peace when solving the

problems. [sentence as heard] All this is in addition to the firm stand against aggression, hoping that this aggression will end in the near future.

In various fields and in various areas, whether the issue concerns our region or any other, under the dedicated and wise leadership of its president, France is considered a beacon of hope. It really gives me pleasure to welcome President Mitterrand here in Jordan, and on behalf of you all I welcome him to this meeting with us. We will listen with great attention to his opinions and his answers to the questions we shall ask him.

At the end of his, Mrs Mitterrand's, and the rest of the delegation's visit, I hope he will convey our feelings, and the feelings of the friends who have been in their second home and among their friends. Welcome and thank you for being with us on this historic occasion.

[Francois Mitterrand] In the beginning, I would like to thank His Majesty King Husayn, who, during his speech on Jordanian-French relations expressed what I personnaly feel. He ended his introduction by talking about the strong and firm friendship between our countries and leaders. This affirms that we have spent a number of beneficial hours here in Jordan. I have had the opportunity to receive his majesty the king twice in Paris. This meeting, which will be followed by others, is aimed at strengthening the relations between two friendly countries, and the friendship between them will continue.

The time we have spent until now has provided us with valuable information which complements other information and which leads us to explore what France can do in this region of the world. We have adopted a clear stand for a number of years. Relations with Jordan have, fortunately, been good for a long time. When I assumed the presidency, I found that the relations were good, therefore it is required that I preserve these good relations and renew them, in the sense that these relations must accomodate the critical and tense conditions in which the world lives today.

His majesty the king and I, personally, have come through these tough past years in the shadow of the world's progress, especially in this region. The relations are various: political, concerned with international politics, and bilateral relations, which have a known nature — economic and cultural relations. The scope is unlimited, because the matter concerns a people of great history, as has been manifested from our visits this morning [to historical sites]; people who possess a culture from which all cultures have stemmed, including the French people's culture. Therefore, there are many incentives for directing us toward understanding and toward facing the great issues with firm and clear political positions. There is some weakness in the relations of commercial exchange; these relations which summarize all the key factors of relations among people.

We have discussed the matter of the visit's date. You know that this is a complicated matter. Both sides must prepare the various dates. One cannot predict what is going to happen 6 or 7 months before the visit, particularly in a changing world. We have to calculate and make sure of the calculations and the place and other such matters. But we do notice that there is some stalemate in the Middle East peace talks. I am talking about the Western part of this region, that is, relations between Israel and the Arab countries, and the long waiting. In Lebanon, it seems the situation there internally is quieting down. Solving the problem of the relations between countries and other neighboring countries will require some time.

This does not concern Jordan alone but also concerns France. I am not speaking about the dangerous and real war between Iran and Iraq — a war that is threatening the situation in the entire region and in Jordan as well. We discussed this topic in detail. France is not hostile to Iran. It is not a party in this war, and it is not required to be a party in this war. Recently, the relations between Iraq and France were strengthened. We thus respected our obligations toward Iraq. This means that the French policy remained the same particularly toward a battle on the borders between the Arab and Persian worlds. We believe that there are numerous reasons justifying a rapprochement between the two sides. Consequently, our behavior is the same behavior that we normally adopt toward any war. We cannot judge war but we can say that this war is not necessary and a peaceful solution must be reached through negotiations. Negotiation is better than killing thousands of innocent people. This is in addition to the bad consequences from which both sides are sufferring. Ladies and gentlemen, I am ready to answer all the questions that you want to pose to me. The obvious and frank friendship between us does not mean that we are not ready to initiate intensive and deep negotiations. We actually began these negotiations yesterday and we will pursue our work today. Thanks.

[Yusuf Abu Layl] Yusuf Abu Layl, *SAWT ASH-SHA'B*. I would like to welcome you, Mr President. You are in a friendly country. Permit me to tell you very briefly how we see France's role within the framework of the Palestine question. Regarding the Arabs and the majority of the French people, we believe that France has a special relationship with the Arabs. Regarding ourselves, France is a friendly country and is considered a distinguished European power. Nobody can forget the role that France played in Lebanon and the aid it extended to Iraq. We believe that France can take a larger initiative to strengthen the peace issue. We expect France to make a special and clear gesture. Mr President, my question is as follows: Following your talks with his majesty the king, can we hope that France will begin a private action and specific efforts within the coming months to achieve peace in the Middle East?

[Mitterrand] With regard to the Arab-Israeli conflict, France's role can be described as follows: You said that France has long historical relations with the Arab world. This is true on the one hand. On the other, France is playing an important and tangible role in the European economic group, which represents a population of 152 or 153 million. Furthermore, France is a permanent member of the UN Security Council. Thus, we must know how France will play with these three winning cards. I have talked about these three characteristics or winning cards of France, but France cannot act on behalf of those concerned. In today's world and in this region where there is hostility between countries — namely, Israel and its neighbors — France cannot obtain a commitment from either side to adopt stands expressing a willingness to negotiate. You may think of continuous action that may lead to changing the state of mind of the situation on the ground. This is what we are currently seeking to achieve. We

repeated our stands many times and brought them closer to the stands adopted by the Untied Nations. This is necessary before matters are decided.

In any case, the various countries who have tried to mediate, the superpowers, and specific groups of countries and even the region's countries, have all tried all types of formulas and found out that they have failed.

I have always thought that it is wise to encourage direct relations between the conflicting and hostile sides. I have noticed that this formula too will not improve the situation. I hope a conference including all the concerned sides will be convened. All the conflicting sides must participate in this conference, or it will fail. We have made efforts in this direction, and you know that for a number of years, two years or more, we have concluded a joint draft resolution with Egypt which we presented to the UN Security Council. There was a question of whether this presentation was suitable because there were, at that stage, other initiatives which dominated the arena; Reagan's plan, or the Fes summit resolutions. This was the problem from which we suffered. That means that we did not want to present these proposals at a time when the Fes summit resolutions and Reagan's plan were under discussion. Thinking that we are right does not necessarily men that we are. I will meet with President Mubarak tomorrow. I have agreed on this with him. There is no doubt that France will respect the stands which it has repeated several times, those which call for respecting UN Security Council resolutions including Resolution 242, which implicitly means recognizing Israel. Israel must respect this resolution, which means that it will relinquish control over the territories which it has been holding for a number of years.

France, which has preserved fertile relations with Israel, has expressed its opinion frankly, despite its good relations with Israel. I have said this before the Israeli Knesset when I called for the Palestinian people's right to self determination, and to a homeland.

If you are talking about another problem, I have already talked about Iraq's problem. If you mean France's position toward Lebanon, our position has been clear in the midst of tragic conditions. I think your question was concerned with French, excuse me, Israeli-Arab relations.

[Question] It is known that you have special relations with the leader of the Israeli Labor Party. Are there specific arrangments for a dialogue with the Labor Party if it wins the coming elections? Thank you.

[Mitterrand] Yes, I have friends in Israel, Madame. This is due to the proximity of political viewpoints, and due to the recently strengthened relations with the Labor Party representatives. I also know representatives of the conservative party. My principle is not to intervene in internal discussions during elections in any country. The best thing is to await the results of the elections before deciding what we can do.

[Unidentified reporter ask question in French; not translated into Arabic]

[Mitterrand] I have responded to this question.

[Unidentified reporter] The question is directed to King Husayn, please.

[King Husayn] Please repeat the question.

[Unidentified reporter asks in French; not translated into Arabic]

[King Husayn] I think that President Mitterrand has answered this question adquately, and my answer is similar to his. We have to wait and see what will happen. We have said that the Labor Party was in power for a number of years during which serious events and developments took place, such as adopting UN Security Council Resolution 242 in 1967 and 1968. But unfortunately, we have not reached a just and comprehensive peace. We have followed Israeli election campaigns, and according to the results, we shall know if Israeli public opinion is leaning toward moderation now or not. In any case, this wil be clarified in a short while.

[Question] Amman radio correspondent. Sir: During the evening banquet yesterday you said that France is ready to participate in an international conference on the Middle East. A few months ago, you visited the United States, and a few weeks ago you visited the USSR. Have you noticed in the two capitals a similarity in viewpoints with France concerning the possibility of holding this conference? In your opinion, do you believe that this conference will be held at various stages, and which countries must be invited to this conference? Thank you.

[Mitterrand] I prefer direct negotiations among the warring parties in the region. Unfortunately, such a thing will not happen. But, since this formula will not be achieved, we must search for new means, such as the idea of an expanded conference. This does not mean that France will participate in this conference. I do not want to impose France on anybody. If France is considered a useful ally in the framework of these talks, we will participate. We will serve peace. As I have said, in our capaicty as a security Council member, you must have thought of this question. [as heard] I cannot say that we have close viewpoints with the Americans and the Soviets. If a conference is held, it is illogical to depend on one of the superpowers only. We must increase the opportunities of success — the success of negotiations and of a solution if we can reach one. We must guarantee that this solution will be followed. We have seen many conferences which adopt splendid documents, but they have not led to anything because the participants have not guaranteed the implementation of these decisions. Fortunately, the situation has not reached this stage. I am not talking here about France, the USSR, and the United States. I am discussing Palestinian existence in particular — and including Israeli existence. I have always said that we must look at the correct and sound course. We cannot ignore the Palestinian existence. This was the mistake committed in the framework of resolutions adopted in the past. I cannot discuss the details related to the countries participating in this conference, assuming that the conference will be held. I can only talk about conditions which may foil this conference, including ruling out the superpowers or the concerned parties themselves. This is my opinion.

[Question] Egyptian *AL-AHRAM* and Lebanese *AL-HAWADITH* correspondent. This Venice Declaration, which was reached through strenuous European efforts and which carried signs of peace remained mere ink on paper. The Reagan plan was aborted by the intransigent Israeli rejection the first moment it appeared. The Fes summit resolutions are still revolving in a vicious circle. The only glimpse of hope that remains in reaching a real and acceptable peace is through the international conference which the United States, the international circles, and the forces of good people have called for and adopted. What role can France — the deep-rooted, civilized, friendly, and pioneer European country — assume to guarantee the convocation of this conference and to render it a success? Thank you, sir.

[King Husayn] Is this a question or a statement?

[Mitterrand] I do not know what to add on this subject. In any case, all that can guarantee the implementation of the resolutions adopted at the United Nations provided that this will benefit the parties directly involved, if we can do so. [sentence as heard] Therefore, we will hold a discussion in the framework of an expanded conference. France does not consider itself a mediating force. You are fully aware of the delicate problems we are facing. Negotiating means that the concerned partes must accept negotiations. Otherwise, activities will be confined to advice and to diplomatic moves.

The Security Council and the United Nations should come out with the required lessons and results. However, all that we want is to affect or try to affect the affairs and direct them toward the required course. I, stated this officially five or six times in the Knesset, in Cairo, in Algiers, and even here. The opportunity did not present itself yesterday for me to refer to this subject because I referred to a number of elements. However, France is one of the countries that always volunteers to bring about peace while guaranteeing every country's right to live within secure borders and to gain the recognition of the region's peoples. These people are present and have not disappeared. Therefore, these peoples have the right to enjoy their homeland and to do with their homeland whatever they want.

[Question] Is there any hope that the French president can talk to the other side just as he spoke before the Knesset? Can he talk to the Palestinian side before the PNC without any preconditions? On the other hand, do you not believe that France refuses to recognize the right to self-determination and the determination of the homeland? Can France provide security guarantees of a different kind?

[Mitterrand] When we talk about diplomacy and international policy, we should clarify our expressions. Of course, I cannot ask the PLO to recognize Israel unilaterally without Israel's recognition of the PLO. I call on the PLO to accept the UN resolution explicitly. Just as you ask me to be clear, you should ask the others also to be clear, in order to enable the PLO to enter the discussions begun in the United Nations. This has not happened. However, I understand the PLO's apprehensions and rejections. Anyhow, this is their problem, but I believe that they considered any acceptance of these resolutions as an acceptance of other UN resolutions that recognize Israel's existence. I do not call for a unilateral recognition because such a call would be unjust. The PLO will never make compromises if it does not know the price of these compromises, especially since it is trying to realize its ideals. I believe that this organization should accept the resolutions because it is considered a national liberation movement. During my speech at the Knesset, I said that France recognizes national liberation movements. I do not remember exactly what I said, but I remember that I said that we would not ignore the fact that the PLO represents a struggling people. Nobody can deny this. We took action on this basis when we helped the Palestinians in West Beirut. We also helped them leave Tripoli. We also mediated during the exchange of the POW's between the Israelis and the Palestinians. There is also a body for defending the PLO's interests in Paris. This body was established under the previous government. The French minister of external relations has recently held a meeting with Yasir 'Arafat in Tunis. 'Arafat can come to France any time he wants. I have repeated many times that he can come to France. We call for recognizing the UN resolutions. My opinion about terrorism is clear. Yasir 'Arafat is not a head of state because there is no such state. This is what even you had said, and I am a head of a state. When I was in the Socialist Party and was not a president, I met with Yasir 'Arafat in Cairo in 1975. Now I am president, and consequently there is a difference between a president and a leader of a national liberation movement. France ignores neither the PLO nor Yasir 'Arafat, but it believes that the official relations lack certain elements. If we can protect the Palestinian people in the future, we will not hesitate to do so.

[Salih Madi] Salih Madi, Jordan Television. Mr President, the Iraqi-Iranian war may flare up in the Gulf, particularly after Iran struck the Saudi oil tankers. What can France do in this case?

[Mitterrand] With respect to a situation as sensitive as this one, I prefer to bide my time and increase my knowledge before I speak about the arrangements we may adopt. Of course, we may fear what you have mentioned, that is, oil tankers will be struck. So far, this has not taken place where it concerns us. I repeat that I absolutely do not want to adopt a hostile or aggressive stand toward Iran. I would be adopting a hostile stand if I announce the adoption of measures, especially since Iran restricts its war to Iraq and there is no state of war so far between us and Iran. Thus, we must speak with the utmost clarity and accuracy. With respect to Iraq and Iran, our choice, the choice of Jordan and that of many moderate countries can be summed up as follows: If the problem concerns borders, negotiations are far better than this massacre from which the young men in Iraq and Iran are suffering. We cannot continue to live on the sensitivities of the past or to live by creeds alone. This may be the reason. If this is the reason, then the war will have other dimensions. I do not rule out this possibility. I know history and you know the history of this region. It is true that matters have changed; but in this case, the Emirates and the Gulf countries will not be the only ones which will experience this problem. The problem will be experienced also by the Middle East, and all the Islamic countries, and, consequently, this will affect the Islamic countries' relations with their neighbors in Africa and in Europe.

I cannot discuss a subject which still is a chimera. We will consider all eventualities in light of the development of circumstances. This is all I have to say. I absolutely do not want any

interpretation of the assistance we offer to Iraq within the framework of a friendship which we do not conceal. This assistance does not justify our entering into a war against the Iranian people, this noble people. Therefore, one must not confuse the issue.

[Question] Your Majesty, I will ask my question in Arabic and hope that the reply will be in Arabic for the listeners of Radio Monte Carlo. Your Majesty, yesterday, you drew a gloomy picture of the situation in the Middle East. You even said that Jerusalem has become an election game. Though the international organization is passing through a state of fragmentation, you have called for reviving its role through an international conference. My first question is: Is this the last resort you have? My second question is: Are all the plans that have been submitted until now useless, including the Reagan plan, in case Reagan wins in the elections?

[King Husayn] I believe that no two persons can differ on depicting the state of affairs in this part of the world, particularly concerning the principal cause. The basic cause for instability in this part of the world is the Palestinian cause, the issue of Arab rights, and the issue of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The picture whose outlines I have drawn is the picture I see and which makes me believe that we are quickly approaching the moment when all of us would lose all hope in achieving a just and honorable peace in this part of the world. Something may happen directly or after some period, but of what use will this be if the last chance will have been lost? I say this with repsect to what is taking place in the occupied territories. The occupation has been going on now for 17 years as well as the tribulation of the people, the kinfolk, and the brothers. With respect to Jerusalem, 17 years also have passed on a situation whcih cannot be suffered any longer because the Muslims in this world cannot practice what he became accustomed to, in terms of pilgrimageto Mecca, visits to Medina, and visits to Jerusalem.

In the past, it was said that the Jews had been unable to reach the Wailing Wall for a period of 17 years. However, this claim also contains some fallacies. The issue there was solved. Their reaching the Wailing Wall was part of a broader agreement guaranteeing the right of the Christian Arabs to reach Nazareth, too. In any case, for Jerusalem to become a political game is a tragedy. Jerusalem, in terms of its position and importance to all those who believe in God, is above all this.

The Arabs' rights and Arab sovereignty in the Arab part of Jerusalem will inevitably return. It is also inevitable that the solution must be based on the impermissibility of the forcible seizure of land, the withdrawal from all occupied territories in exchange for peace, and the right of all to live in peace and security, and, of course, the recognition of thsoe directly concerned, the Palestinian Arab people, as well as their participation in the formulation of peace.

I cannot see this thing happening through the proposed plans. Proposing these plans did not lead us to the desired objectives. I, personally, do not believe that we can come closer to the desired and comprehensive solution unless in the coming stages matters return to a situation in which all the concerned parties can participate — of course, with the Palestinian Arab people and their organization, their representative which reflects their ambitions and aspirations — and on the international level with the UN Security Council which has issued Resolutions 242 and 238 and which is the party that can guarantee the results in case of the implementation of the principles that cannot be a subject of bargaining with respect to the final solution, which must be a comprehensive solution. This is the situation, and I believe that this is the last opportunity. For this reason, I have explained my view and what I believe to be the means of handling the situation before it becomes too late. Thanks.

[Question] Mr President, many times in your interviews, statements, and in your speech yesterday you stressed the need to negotiate on the Middle East conflict and the Palestine question. Everyone agrees on the fact that the basis for any solution is UN Resolution 242 and its principles. Israel wants to negotiate for more land. I believe that the Arab states are seeking peace and want to negotiate on peace arrangements according to UN Resolution 242. How can reconciliation be reached in this regard, at a time when Israel insists on pursuing its settlement policy and imposing its fait accompli policy on the occupied Arab territories? What will the subject of negoations be?

[Mitterrand] I would like to remind you that I cannot be in the place of everyone at all times. There are different views because of these territories and their situation in terms of what is currently taking place, which are the guarantees of the future [as heard]. Naturally, negotiations can only succeed when we offer exchanged guarantees with regard to the future. The UN Security Council has the right to look into the methods it will implement in order that we can implement these various recommendations. This subject is very difficult, because the UN Security Council cannot always guarantee its respect by all parties. However, this is the method that enables the peoples to respect their leaders. We cannot use anothermethod to commit the various parties to respect anything that we adopt; unless it is war, which does not concern us.

I believe that through the United Nations, France has achieved some progress on some issues, such as the Iraq-Iran problem and others. I believe that both Iran and Iraq have agreed on this suggestion. We tried to use imagination to solve this impasse from which we are currently suffering. However, we have to know the reason for this. It is not related to France's stand. Both sides are convinced of the soundness of our intentions. We do not disturb either Israel or the Arab countries — those countries who are feeling the pain due to the method by which this problem has been dealt with for several years. We believe that negotiations means relinquishing some of the requirements. Israel, for instance, cannot obtain the world community's acceptance of a series of actions that it carries out in areas on which negotiations are still continuing. We do not accept this method in France. You know that politics is a daily process. You have posed specific and polite questions to me, but this question gave me the impression that France is a different country, one existing outside, that is solving this problem. We must be modest. We cannot solve any problem, but we can contribute toward solving it.

[Question] Mr President, what has happened to the move of the French Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem?

[Mitterrand] You already know my opinion. It seems that you like repetition. Lionel Jospin, secretary general of the Socialist Party, is one of my friends. I am not responsible for commenting on his statements. He talked about this topic. However, any political party cannot give its opinion regarding foreign policy when the president of the republic must do it himself. His reply was more complicated and argumentative than the manner with which you have represented him. He talked about history and Jerusalem, but he did not say that it is the capital of Israel. However, France's policy is the same and remains unchanged. The French Embassy is still in Tel Aviv. The French Embassy will remain in Tel Aviv.

[Question] What are the problems with which you have become acquainted and those you will become acquainted with during your visits to the other countries?

[Mitterrand] I will visit several countries. I believe you have Syria in mind. Of course, there is no reason for ruling out Syria from our policy. Events have taken place which did not make us put this issue on our priority list. However, I can reply in the affirmative. [sentence as heard]

[Question] Can one view what was contained in Your Majesty's speech yesterday as some kind of a termination by Jordan of President Reagan's initiative dated 1 September 1982, and as some kind of a return to what resembles the former Geneva conference on the Palestinian problem? Does this conference not need a Syrian-Jordanian rapprochement?

[King Husayn] I believe that what I said a short while ago about all the parties concerned and the comprehensive solution is very clear. I said all the parties concerned, above all those directly concerned. We, as well as they who are concerned. We shall not abandon the sons of Palestine. We said all the other parties too. Of course Syria is one of these parties; it has territories which are occupied, and has a place to assume with respect to this issue.

As for President Reagan's plan, I did not terminate it myself. Israel directly terminated it when it rejected the plan and through its many practices, including its clear escalation which is considered as a reply to the plan, and in addition to pursuing the establishment of settlements in the occupied lands. Unfortunately, this is taking place with the financing and backing of the United States. I frankly believe that it is inevitable that we return to an international conference.

The United States has a great role to play in any move for seeking the desired solution. However, it is impermissible to leave it alone in the arena. It also does not have the right to ask for this. One can see what relations it has with Israel. We also see that it is affected by the influence of Israel's friends in the United States and by world Zionism. It has a role which cannot be denied.

However, the USSR also has a similar role, and the UN Security Council permanent members also have the same role. The UN Security Council and the international organizations, in addition to all the parties concerned in the region, also have the same role. I believe that this answers your question.

Joint Talks Continue

JN110640 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn and French President Francois Mitterrand last night continued their discussion of issues of mutual concern. Royal Hashemite Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim and External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson attended.

Mitterrand Departs 11 Jul

JN111111 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 1 Jul 84

[text] Amman — French President Francois Mitterrand and his wife left Amman this morning following a 3-day official visit to Jordan at the invitation of Their Majesties King Husayn and Queen Nur. The French president and accompanying delegation held talks with His Majesty King Husayn and the senior officials on promoting bilateral relations, and exchanged viewpoints on international issues of mutual concern and the current Middle East issues.

The French president and his wife were seen off by Their Majesties King Husayn and Queen Nur.

Foreign Minister on Jordan-PLO Relations

JN110841 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 11 Jul 84 pp 1, 20

[Text] Amman — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri has denied that the Palestinian-Jordanian relations are lukewarm. He said:

Relations which are strengthend day after day by Jordanian and Palestinian decisions must not be judged simply by superficial press reports or doubts cast by certain well-known sides.

He added: The coming days will prove that these relations are very strong and that they are proceeding on the right course. He who believes that an improvement in our relations with Syria, if this happens, must have an adverse effect on our relations with the PLO, and other side, or any other Arab state, will be mistaken,because our relations with the PLO and the Arab states are clear and based on firm principles and are not based on moods that may change from one day to the next.

The foreign minister said that he who seeks to cast doubts on Jordan's firm and declared pan-Arab stands toward the PLO or any other Arab state will fail.

Regarding the conclusions of some observers on the improvement of the Jordanian-Syrian relations following the exchange of congratulations between His Majesty King Husayn and President al-Asad on the blessed 'Id al-Fitr, the foreign minister said: Our relations with Syria were not so completely severed to the extent that an ordinary cable on an Islamic occasion such as 'Id al-Fitr should create such a clamor. The ordinary visits and daily business [umur yawmiyah] between us have not stopped. However, the media play up matters.

Karami Statement on Cabinet Meeting Reported

NC111248 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1121 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] The Cabinet today held its first full session in the Presidential Palace at B'abda. When the government of national unity was formed, the Cabinet held its first meeting in the absence of Ministers Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt.

Today's Cabinet session lasted over 3 hours and centered on the security situation. The Cabinet expressed satisfaction over this subject. It also discussed in detail the question of the kidnapped persons. For this purpose, the Cabinet formed a committee consisting of Minister al-Huss, Minister Skaf, and some officers. This committee will seek to secure the immediate release of the kidnapped persons. It will also explore the possibility of the existence of other kidnapped persons. The committee will see to it that any other kidnapped persons are released through the appropriate means.

We have learned that the Cabinet has appointed Major General Nabil Quraytim as secretary general of the Supreme Defense Council. He will also be the sixth member of the Military Council. We have also learned that the Cabinet agreed to spend 10 million Lebanese pounds to deal with conditions in the south upon the recommendation of Nabih Birri, minister of state for affairs of the south. With regard to the question of the Army officers' promotion, we were told by Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran that the matter of the promotions was not discussed.

Upon emerging from B'abda Palace at 1400, Prime Minister Rashid Karami made the following statement:

[Begin recording] [First reporter] [Words indistinct] important. What have you done with it? Have you settled all the issues, or are some still pending?

[Karami] The Cabinet discussed the general state of affairs in the country. It expressed satisfaction over the way things have developed, particularly in the security sphere. The security plan is proceeding normally. In light of this fact, we discussed the issue of the kidnapped persons and agreed on a plan that had earlier been discussed with the quarters concerned, particularly with the relatives of the kidnapped persons. This plan calls for the release of all those kidnapped. Should some of them remain in detention, there are arrangements for measures to verify where they are being held so that action will be taken for their release. Furthermore, a committee was formed to prepare a study on the general plan for the liberation of the south and for the opening of the roads to the south, particularly the main road. The same applies to the western Al-Biqa' and Rashayya. These are the main issues we discussed in addition to the usual agenda.

[Second reporter] Mr Prime Minister, did you discuss the security plan for the mountain?

[Karami] We did not discuss this plan because it is the responsibility of the Military Council. A discussion is underway on the arrangements for this plan. God willing, this plan will soon be implemented in the mountain and other areas.

[Third reporter] Has a secretary general been appointed for the Supreme Defense Council?
[Karami] Nabil Quraytim was appointed secretary general of the Supreme Defense Council.
[Fourth reporter] Who comprises the committee for following up the issue of kidnapped persons?
[Karami] A number of officers, on the understanding that they will seek help from the official organs when needed.
[Fifth reporter] Mr Prime Minister: When will the detainees be released?
[Karami] This will take place as soon as possible, God willing.
[Sixth reporter] Is a specific number available on any surviving detainees?
[Karami] I am not aware of any details.
[Seventh reporter] Mr Prime Minister: Have you discussed the restoration of relations with Iran?
[Karami] [Words indistinct] these are things that will be handled through the Foreign Ministry.
[Eighth Reporter] Have you [words indistinct] with [Libyan Secretary for Foreign Liaison] At-Turayki today?
[Karami] So far as I know he has arrived. [end recording]

A delegation of the Committee of Relatives of Kidnapped Persons in the eastern area had earlier met with the president of the republic and submitted their demands. Afterward, the delegation released a statement to the Cabinet and newsmen, calling on the committee to embark on serious work to release all kidnapped persons, whoever they are and wherever they are, and to turn this black page in order to return to an atmosphere of unity and amity.

The statement also demanded the release of kidnapped persons and detainees without prior conditions, and without numerical considerations.

Explosion Rocks Libyan Brotherhood Bureau 11 Jul

NC110457 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0420 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] At 0415 today, an explosion occurred at the Libyan Brotherhood Bureau in the Al-Janah area of West Beirut. The explosion caused heavy material damage to the building in which fire broke out.

In another development, while it has been mentioned that the Libyan foreign minister will visit Beirut today, the As-Sadr Brigades have distributed a statement criticizing the visit.

Hungarian Embassy Also Damaged

NC110617 Paris AFP in English 0602 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Beirut, July 11 (AFP) — A commando dynamited the Libyan Embassy here before dawn today after rounding up the four Libyans on duty and five Lebanese gendarmes on guard outside. The attack, which damaged two main supporting pillars and blew furniture through windows, was immediately claimed by the "As-Sadr Brigades," a clandestine Shi'ite Moslem organization which recently kidnapped two Libyan diplomats here in separate operations.

Police said seven armed, masked men forced their way into the embassy around 4 a.m., overpowering the gendarmes and Libyan staff and holding them some 500 metres (yards) from the building.

Two men then placed dynamite in the lift shaft of the four-storey embassy and detonated it by remote control. They told the gendarmes that they were anxious to harm neither Lebanese nor Libyans, wanting only to damage the interests of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Windows were also blown out in neighbouring buildings in the Bir Hasan district of West Beirut, and the nearby Hungarian Embassy was damaged.

The spiritual leader of the Shi'ite community in Lebanon, the Imam Musa as-Sadr, disappeared in August 1978 on a visit to Libya. Libyan authorities say he had left Tripoli for Italy and disappeared there, but Lebanese Shi'ites believe he is still held prisoner in Libya.

Groups, Officials Oppose At-Turayki Visit

Birri Refuses To Meet

NC111019 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0949 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Beirut, 11 Jul (MENA) — Nabih Birri, minister of state for south Lebanon affairs, has refused to meet with 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, the Libyan secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, who is due to arrive in Beirut later today.

He said that this meeting cannot be held until the fate of Imam Musa as-Sadr, chairman of the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council, has been uncovered. As-Sadr disappeared during a visit to Libya at the end of August 1978.

On the other hand, Hasan Hashim, chairman of the Amal Movement Executive Committee, has said it is impermissible for At-Turayki to come to Lebanon, unless he brings As-Sadr with him.

Hasan Hashim called on the Lebanese Government not to restore relations with Libya until Imam as-Sadr is set free from Al-Qadhdhafi's prison.

Ja'farite Mufti Objects

NC111111 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] His Eminence Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan, the grand Ja'farite mufti, today raised objection to the visit to Lebanon of 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, Libyan secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison.

He urged the state to follow up the issue of the disapperance of Imam Musa as-Sadr and his two companions, adding that At-Turayki's visit at present does not serve the public interests.

Shaykh Qabalan warned against a setback that might affect the security plan, stressing that Lebanon had suffered enough.

RFL Notes Released Libyan Ambassador Now in Damascus

NC101137 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] The latest information available on Muhammad al-Fayturi, member of the Popular Committee at the Libyan Brotherhood Bureau in Beirut, says he is now in Damascus following his release at dawn today by his abductors in Al-Biqa'.

Security sources have noted the families of the bureau's employees have not left Beirut under the threat made earlier by the As-Sadr Brigades organization. The brigades yesterday claimed responsibility for Al-Fayturi's abduction. Some time ago, the brigades claimed responsibility for the kidnapping of another official of the Libyan embassy — Muhammad al-Mughrabi.

Observers regard the attacks against the Libyan diplomats in Beirut as within the context of a campaign aimed at compelling all Libyan nationals to leave.

Continued Reportage on Security Situation in Beirut

Foreign Airlines To Resume Flights

NC101450 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1405 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] It was announced that foreign carriers would begin returning to Beirut as of tomorrow. A Hungarian Airlines flight is scheduled to arrive tomorrow and both Alia and Interflug would resume their flights to Beirut on Thursday. Other foreign carriers are expected to follow suit.

Ihdin on Inter-Phalangist Clashes

NC101307 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1030 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Excerpt] The security situation in East Beirut continues to deteriorate as the result of the clashes duringthe past week between the wings of the enemy stooges' party; namely, the Phalangist gangs, Israel's agents.

The strife today assumed a new form: car chases. At 0900, gunmen in two cars, a Datsun and a Mercedes, exchanged gunfire. A gendarme was wounded in the clash and immediately taken to Al-Hayik Hospital.

RFL: 'Limited' Gunfire Exchanged

NC101205 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Gunmen have appeared in some downtown streets in West Beirut, particularly opposite military positions of the various organizations. Before noon today, limited gunfire was exchanged

among members of the organizations in the Jall al-Bahr, UNESCO, and Wata al-Musaytibah areas. So far, the reasons for and the results of this gunfire exchange remain unclear.

Al-Jumayyil, Karami, Birri Discussion

NC101442 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1405 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Developments on the local scene and steps to implement future stages of the security plan were discussed today at a lengthy meeting at B'abda Palace between President al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister Karami, and Minister of State Nabih Birri. Discussions during the 2-hour meeting which extended to the mid-afternoon touched on steps already taken to implement the security plan in Greater Beirut, steps to be taken to expand the security zone to the mountains, and the issue of kidnapped persons.

President al-Jumayyil yesterday promised a delegation representing families of kidnapped persons that this issue would be given first priority by the Cabinet and placed on the agenda for its regular meeting tomorrow. Discussions today also centered on the opening of the southern coastal highway within the context of political and security measures designed to ultimately liberate south Lebanon and west Al-Biqa' of Israeli occupation.

Minister Birri, who has special responsibility for the south, had earlier requested the formation of a military committee to draw an operational plan for opening the coastal highway and the deployment of Army units as part of security arrangements. During the meeting Minister Birri also raised the case of practices perpetrated in the Jubayl area, especially in the wake of the attack on the Haj family.

On emerging from the B'abda Palace, Prime Minister Karami declined to comment on details of the discussions. He told newsmen the Cabinet would be meeting tomorrow but indicated a specific site of the meeting either in B'abda or Bikfayya depended on Minister Junblatt. The prime minister told reporters that the meeting today provided opportunity for wide-ranging discussion of all topics of pressing current interest.

Al-Huss Meets Relatives of Kidnapped Persons

NC101934 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Salim al-Huss, minister of labor, national education, and fine arts, held a meeting at his residence in Beirut tonight with a delegation of relatives of kidnapped persons in the presence of members of the mufti's office committee made up of Shaykh Muhammad 'Ali al-Juzu, Dr Husayn al-Quwatli, former minister Malik Salam, Dr Muhammad Yasin, and lawyers Sinan Barraj and Ni'mah Hamiyah.

Discussions dealt with the kidnapping issue. Relatives of kidnapped persons presented their demands for submission to the Cabinet.

After the meeting, Al-Huss said: Our meeting was to conclude yesterday's meeting at which it was decided to move the sit-in to the mufti's office. The conferees discussed various aspects of the question and outlined what stances can be adopted at tomorrow's Cabinet session.

Answering a question, Al-Huss said: The taking of hostages is rejected as is the exchange of kidnap victims. The state cannot accept this. What is required is that all persons currently being held should be released and the case of other missing persons should be followed up. Al-Huss declined to join or chair any committee other than that of the mufti's office.

Group Enters TV Station To Present Statement

NC101939 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] A delegation of relatives of kidnapped persons has entered the Lebanese television station in Al-Hazimiyah and presented a statement expressing the hope for a solution to their humanitarian question. The delegation has called for revealing the fate of the many kidnapped people.

Mufti Khalid, Suslikov Review Lebanese Developments

NC101244 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1030 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] His Imminence Shaykh Hasan Khalid, the mufti of the Lebanese Republic, at 1000 today received in his office the Soviet charge d'affaires in Beirut, Yuriy Suslikov. Shaykh Khalid and Suslikov reviewed the developments occurring on the Lebanese scene.

Afram Opposed to Stronger Muslim Role in State

NC101629 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Lebanese Forces Commander engineer Fadi Afram has stated the Lebanese Forces will politically resist the government's attempt to introduce reforms giving the Muslims a greater share of power in a unified and centralized Lebanon.

In a statement to REUTER, Afram said the Christians will politically resist reforms in the government and in the Chamber of Deputies. He said the Lebanese Forces, which accepted the security plan to give the citizens a respite from the atmosphere of war, will take this opportunity to hold direct talks with the other parties.

Afram added: We can take advantage of the cease-fire to hold negotiations with the Druze and the Shi'ites if they so desire. He further said the Lebanese Forces still view Lebanon's future as a federal state permitting the various religious sects to supervise the administration of their respective areas. He said he accepts that the Muslims have the right to a greater authority, but the Lebanese Forces will not accept such power within a strong centralized government. He said: We are against a plan to share power within a centralized state. We support a new system in

which the authority is decentralized. This will not [as heard] rule out a dispute over central authority.

Afram expressed his conviction the security plan has a chance of success. However, he described it as a cease-fire covered with a great deal of make-up. He pointed out the chance for the security plan's success is due to its being backed by a political decision by all parties. He expressed satisfaction with the way the security plan has been implemented in the eastern part of Beirut.

Junblatt Interviewed in *AS-SIYASAH*

GF101700 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 9 Jul 84 pp 1, 22

[Interview with Walid Junblatt, minister of labor, social affairs, and tourism, by *AL-ANBA'* Beirut correspondent Muhammad 'Anan — date not given]

[Excerpts] [Muhammad 'Anan] Where does the interest of Lebanon lie between the eastern and the western blocs?

[Walid Junblatt] We are following a nonaligned policy. We are part of the Third World and the Arab world. We do not want to be involved in the superpower struggle. However, the natural option is to be in alliance with the socialist bloc, because the United States has been supporting the state of Israel. It will continue to support any act of aggression and any regime hostile to the Arab people's interests because there are Arab regimes working against the Arab people.

['Anan] How do you evaluate the Syrian role in Lebanon?

[Junblatt] The Syrian role is effective and basic. It has been positive and it is seeking a settlement based on national sovereignty, and the confirmation of the national Arab line in Lebanon.

['Anan] What is your stand toward the return of a Palestinian presence in Beirut?

[Junblatt] We cannot accept this. This stand is clear and frank. The Palestinian people have their rights in Lebanon, but they also have their obligations. I do not think the Palestinian and the Lebanese people will bear the cost of renewing the slogan of armed struggle. We have no objection if this slogan is common between our brothers and us; but if Lebanon alone were to be committed to this slogan I do not think it is practical and logical. Even the people in the camps will not stand for this. They cannot bear the past experience which sometimes involved them in civil wars and in wars with the Arabs.

['Anan] After the recent developments, do you have a specific plan to settle the dispute in the region?

[Junblatt] There is no immediate solution to the Middle East issue, nor will there be any solution. The gradual solution will be only through the establishment of the Palestinian state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. But it seems that the so-called moderates in Israel, the Labor Party, consider the Jordan River to be the border. Hence I do not foresee any imminent settlement.

At-Turk on Indirect Security Talks With Israel

NC111137 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Foreign Ministry Secretary General Fu'ad at-Turk yesterday spoke to the French press delegation, saying that Lebanon is ready to conclude a deal with Israel regarding security arrangements, but through indirect negotaitions to be conducted by any friendly state which could play the role of a third party. The aim of these negotiations is to achieve a full Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and to impose Lebanon's control over all its territory.

The Foreign Ministry secretary general concluded by saying that the reconstruction process will begin after security throughout Lebanon has been consolidated.

Indirect Contacts Confirmed

NC102039 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Na'um Farah, foreign relations chairman and official spokesman of the Lebanese Forces, has stressed that there is no hope for [solving] the Lebanese crisis without establishing a decentralized system. He pointed out the Lebanese Forces will fight any party that announces partition in Lebanon. He said: We have contacts with Israel to establish a strategic balance with Syria. There are also contacts with Syria which must develop into a frank and serious dialogue beneficial to both parties. He said the Lebanese Forces are ready for dialogue with Syria but not prepared to cede their free and independent decisionmaking.

Franjiyah Backs Demands in Kidnapped Issue

NC101236 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1030 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Excerpt] [Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah had declared that he fully adopts the demands of the relatives of the kidnapped which, he said, are just demands. President Franjiyah expressed strong backing for these demands, adding that he has placed all his sources at the disposal of the relatives of the kidnapped. He called on the state to engage in serious and quick action to save the kidnapped and to insure their release, without the formation of committees; the reason being that committees are the cemetery of history.

With regard to the security plan, he said: When we speak of a security plan, the spontaneous reaction would be one of thanking those who made the decision to hammer out this plan. However, thanks would be appropriate if this plan is really intended to insure security for the Lebanese compatriots. However, he expressed fear this so-called security plan is intended to enable one faction to bring the whole of Beirut under its control.

The above statements were made at the news conference held by President Franjiyah in his Ihdin Palace to which he moved from Zgharta Palace at the beginning of this week to spend the summer season. With this in mind, he wished the same prosperity as exists in Ihdin would return to all Lebanon's resorts.

Pierre al-Jumayyil Leaves Hospital 10 Jul

NC101119 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil minister of posts, communications, and health, today left St Joseph Hospital for Bikfayya to recuperate for 2 weeks following his illness.

Sham'un Discusses Procurement of Weapons for Army

NC061204 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] [Former] President Camille Sham'un chaired the regular session of the National Liberals' Higher Political Bureau. Following the meeting, he expressed the hope the security plan will be successful because tranquillity and the return to normal life depend on it.

President Sham'un said the issue of procuring weapons is the responsibility of the Lebanese Army which should choose weapons according to their [word indistinct], efficiency, and suitability in line with its training [words indistinct].

He advised the government to be strictly neutral regarding the conflict between the Soviet Union and the United States.

Ihdin Says Phalangists Shell Villages in North

NC110623 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0600 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] At 0400 today, the lackeys of the Israeli enemy, the Phalangist gangs, directed automatic and artillery fire at the defenseless villages south of Al-Kurah [in north Lebanon]. Blida and Makrit villages came under indiscriminate shelling and concentrated gunfire from the Phalangist gangs' positions in Dayr Billa.

RFL Says Clashes Resume in Tripoli 10 Jul

NC101623 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Clashes resumed in Tripoli this afternoon between the armed men of the Sunni Islamic Unification Movement and the 'Alawite Red Knights. They used medium-caliber machine guns and rockets in the quarters of Al-Qubbah, Hayy ash-Sha'rani, and Tal'at al-'Umari.

VOL: Sniping, Coordination Meeting

NC110949 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Intermittent sniping took place today in Tripoli's wheat market and downtown markets. In another development, the Tripoli Coordination Committee will meet at noon today to eliminate tension and to control the situation resulting from recent clashes between the Islamic Unification Movement and the Arab Democratic Party.

PSP Radio Reports Shelling in Al-Kharrub

NC101207 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] A report received before noon today from the Iqlim [of al-Kharrub] says that intensive volleys of 12.7 mm machinegun fire were fired from Harat B'asir on the national positions in B'asir. The report adds Phalangist gunmen exploited the passage of Israeli patrols through Al-Jiyah and opened fire on the residential areas of B'asir.

VOL Reports Attempt Against Hezbollah Leader

NC101140 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] It has been learned from sources close to the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council that Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din proposed during his recent trip to Tehran that the Hezbollah pursue a moderate course in Lebanon and refrain from violence, which has damaged the reputation of the Shi'ite community.

On the other hand, information received by the Voice of Lebanon says there was an attempt to assassinate Shaykh Subhi at-Tufayli, the Hezbollah leader, in Ba'labakk. It is understood a local group opposed to the party's practices was behind the attempt. The information adds that the Hezbollah recently appointed Riyad az-Zu'aytir as the new official in charge of military operations in Beirut. These operations will be aimed against the interests of those states whose relations with Iran have become strained.

RFL on Libyans Training Arab Revolution Movement

NC061135 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] Reports from Al-Biqa' say that the so-called Abu Wa'il, leader of a Palestinian group, has broken away from Abu Salih [Nimr Salih] and together with his gunmen has joined the Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] group.

Security reports say that the Arab Revolution Movement [harakat ath-thwarah al-'arabiyah] has received quantities of weapons sent by Libya in the name of the PFLP.

The reports add that a number of Libyan officers and revolutionary committees representatives have returned to Al-Biqa' to supervise the training and military moves of the so-called Arab Revolution Movement which is led by a Sunni, Ziyad al-Humsi. Gunmen from this movement were seen today erecting roadblocks in Jalala, Ta'lbaya and Mar Ilyas.

Trucks have unloaded various types of weapons and ammunition in the arsenals of the Amal Movement near the 'Abbud family plantations and the Syrian positions in Ta'nayil.

A number of military vehicles have also been brought into the same place.

Iranian Guards Set Up 'Military Centers' in Al-Biqa'
NC061142 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 6 Jul 84

[Text] Within the context of facing any possible developments, the leadership of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards [in Al-Biqa'] have set up military centers. The first center is in Hayy ash-Sharawinah under the command of Qasim at-Tufayli; the second in Hayy ash-Shamis under Husayn al-Faytumi; the third in Hayy ash-Shaykh Hamid under 'Ali Farhat; and the fourth in Hayy al-Wadi under 'Ali al-Jubayli. These centers are in addition to two others under the command of Hasan Hasan and Khalil Sharaf ad-Din.

Husayn Musawi [Shi'ite militia leader] has supplied these groups with various types of machineguns and rocket shells. These moves by the Revolutionary Guards come following the clashes between them and Syrian forces in Al-Biqa'.

Syrian Forces Ban Training Camps in Al-Biqa'
NC101139 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Reports from Al-Biqa' say the Syrian forces have banned the establishment of training camps in the Al-Biqa' region to avoid possible Israeli raids.

Gunmen Shoot at Syrians in Al-Kurah 11 Jul
NC111329 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Gunmen belonging to the Al-Maradah organization, manning a roadblock in Dahr al-'Ayn in Al-Kurah, have opened fire on two members of the Syrian National Party, who were passing in a Mercedes. One of the Syrians is Ahmad al-Ayyubi, a military official of the Syrian National Party. Immediately, both sides started mobilizing in this area.

Israeli Overflights in South, Sidon Reported
NC101408 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Security sources said that since 1500 this afternoon formations of Israeli planes have been seen in successive sorties over Sidon and the south in general.

Israel Reportedly Rejects Conscription in South
NC101200 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] It has been learned Israel is currently studying the possibility of abolishing military manifestations in the [southern Lebanon] region after it has ascertained Amal-affiliated members of the National Guard have carried out operations against Israeli patrols and leaked information on their movements.

Information received by officials say Israel has rejected the idea of military conscription which Colonel Lahd has sought to apply, for fear that some extremist elements might infiltrate and join this army.

RFL Reports Lebanese Car Explodes Near Damascus
NC101639 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Reports from Damascus today say a Lebanese Volvo exploded on the Maqali' al-Hajar highway at the approach to Damascus. The reports say the four passengers of the car may have been killed in the explosion.

Reportage on Visit of Iranian Foreign Minister

Velayati Departure Remarks

LD101804 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] 'Ali Akbar Velayati, our country's foreign minister, arrived in Damascus this afternoon heading a delegation bearing a message from President Khamene'i to the Syrian president. The delegation will also hold talks with Syrian authorities. At the airport, he was welcomed by Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar', other officials from the Syrian Foreign Ministry and the ambassador and the staff of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran. During this trip, officials from the two countries will hold talks on international and Middle East issues, the war imposed by Iraq on Iran, the issue of Palestine, and other issues of interest to both sides.

Before leaving Tehran, Velayati gave some explanations concerning the aims of this trip in an interview with our correspondent to which we now draw your attention:

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] [question indistinct]

[Velayati] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The trip by this delegation to Syria is in connection with the sincere and close relations between the two brother countries of Iran and Syria. Considering the many common denominators we have, it is natural for officials of the two countries to hold necessary talks, every once in a while, for further coordination.

Regarding the imposed war, our stance and that of Syria are one and the same. This stance entails serious confrontation with the evil system ruling over Iraq. Considering that Iraq is presently a center for hatching plots by world arrogance not in the interests of progressive and advanced nations in the region, it is therefore necessary for discussions to be held every so often between officials of (?committed) countries to confront these plots. Regarding the issue of Palestine, and considering that both Syria and Iran reject any form of compromise with the regime occupying Palestine — especially since there are concerted efforts nowadays from various quarters to lead the issue of Palestine toward a compromise — the necessary coordination must therefore also be made for talks in that respect. I bear a message from President Khamene'i to President al-Asad. There are definitely going to be meetings with high-ranking Syrian officials. [end recording]

Velayati Arrives Carrying Message

JN101648 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] At 1700 today, Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati arrived in Damascus on a visit to Syria. Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' received the Iranian minister at Damascus International Airport.

In a statement to the SANA correspondent, Dr Velayati said his visit to Damascus falls within the framework of continued consultations and coordination between officials in both friendly countries on various political issues and to strengthen and bolster bilateral relations in the service of the people in Syria and Iran. He said: I bring a message from 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, to President Hafiz al-Asad on bilateral relations and the important political situation.

Velayati Meets With Counterpart

GF110641 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0530 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] The foreign minister of our country, who is currently visiting Syria, met with the foreign minister of that country and spoke about the problems of the area and cooperation between Iran and Syria in confronting the plots of imperialists and Zionists. The foreign minister of Syria in turn pointed to the fact Syria was one of the first countries to condemn the Iraqi attack against Iran, and said: We recognize the Islamic Revolution of Iran as the backbone of countries in the area fighting the imperialists and Zionists. Our position is to approve the Iranian position because Iran is right and Saddam is wrong.

Velayati, Ash-Shar' Begin Talks

LD110855 Tehran IRNA in English 0840 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 11, IRNA — Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati started the first round of talks with his Syrian counterpart Faruq ash-Shar' Tuesday. Current issues and developments in the region were topics of the talks at the meeting, also attended by the Iranian ambassador to Syria, the deputy at Syria's Foreign Ministry and Velayati's entourage.

Velayati, referring to strategic understanding between Iran and Syria, reiterated the constant exchange of views between officials of the two countries. He said enemies of Iran, Syria and all nations of the region intended to destroy existing harmony between progressive countries, adding that travels of agents of imperialism and supporters of Zionism in the region as well as unity of opinion between agents of imperialism and reactionaries was indicative of the depth of the conspiracy.

Iranian foreign minister said Syria, as the only frontline country which stood against the Zionist regime, was a target of imperialism and Zionism. He noted the most important factor linking Iran and Syria was that country's firmness against all such plots.

Velayati in another part of his talks referred to U.S. schemes against the Islamic revolution including Iraqi attack and said this plot was not only against Iran but all regional peoples including Iraqis. Otherwise, he added, Muslim forces of Iran, Iraq and Syria would be in the frontline to fight against the Zionist regime.

He said the Baghdad regime was the great obstacle in the way of the regional peoples for the liberatin of Quds. Therefore, the Islamic republic decided to continue its defensive fight against the Iraqi regime despite all plots and mental war staged against Iran in the interest of the Iraqi regime, Velayati noted.

Foreign Minister Velayati then referred to the issue of Palestine, saying liberation of Palestine was a strategic objective of the

Islamic Republic since its establishment. He added that from the very beginning of Islamic movement in Iran, Imam Khomeyni referred to the liberation of Palestine as one of the goals of the revolution. Velayati added that Iran thus was following materialization of this strategic objective and opposed any compromise which might divert the issue of Palestine from its main path.

The foreign minister added that such a triumph by Muslim combatants proved if the people's movement was based on their faith and belief, they could stand against the biggest powers. He reiterated Iran was beside all forces struggling for the liberation of Palestine.

In reply Foreign Minister ash-Shar' confirmed Iran's stance concerning the Iraqi imposed war, plots of imperialism and the issue of Palestine. He reiterated Syria's overall support for Iran on the Iraqi war, and said Syria was among first countries to condemn Iraqi invasion against Iran.

The Syrian foreign minister noted that his country considered Islamic revolution of Iran a great supporter of nations in the region against imperialism and Zionism. He said the Iraqi ruler was responsible for the outbreak of war and attack on residential areas, therefore, his statements on peace were aimed at sowing discord. Velayati arrived in Syria Tuesday [10 July].

Ash-Shar' Receives Libya's At-Turayki

JN101924 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Excerpt] At 1800 today, Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' received Dr 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, secretary of the General People's Committee of the Libyan People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison. The meeting was attended by Hanin Hatim, director of the Arab Homeland Department in the Foreign Ministry; the charge d'affaires of the Libyan Relations Bureau in Damascus; and At-Turayki's delegation.

During the meeting, the talks revolved around the current political situation in the region which concerns the two brotherly countries.

It is worth noting a telephone conversation was held between President Hafiz al-Asad and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution in Libya, last night. They discussed matters concerning both countries.

At-Turayki Carries Message

JN101453 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1410 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus, 10 Jul (SANA) — Dr 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, secretary of the General People's Committee of the Libyan People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, arrived in Damascus this afternoon on a visit to Syria. He will convey a message to President Hafiz al-Asad from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. He was received at Damascus International Airport by Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar'; Hanin Hatim, director of the Arab Homeland Department in the Foreign Ministry; Misbah Dalati, head of protocol in the Foreign Ministry; the charge d'affaires of the Libyan Relations Bureau in Damascus; and bureau officials.

Israeli Forces Hold Maneuvers in Western Al-Biqa'

JN110713 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Southern Lebanon — The Israeli occupation authorities held military maneuvers at the shooting range in (Bnub'anah) in western Al-Biqa'. Reports say Israeli tanks headed for the town of Kifrayya to hold similar maneuvers there.

Papers Warn Against Complacency in Lebanon

JN110810 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 11 Jul 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Security Plan Is Not a Temporary Truce," *AL-BA'TH* says: We should not be overwhelmed by success and relax our vigilance because the parties hostile to Lebanon and its Arabism are continuing to weave more plots with the aim of hindering the salvation march, keeping the Lebanese issue volatile, and maintaining its connection with the struggle in the region between the Arab nation and Israel.

When we call for vigilance, we base our argument on our bitter experience with the Arab-Zionist struggle, which has extended from the time Israel was established until the invasion of Lebanon. Our enemy steps up its fierce onslaughts whenever our nation realizes national and pan-Arab successes and victories. Lebanese events prove the U.S.-Zionist alliance, which suffered a series of sucessive defeats, is now trying to make good its political and military losses by all means and methods available to it.

An *ATH-THAWRAH* editorial, written by its editor in chief, reads: The current state of calm in the U.S.-Israeli policy does not mean this policy has lost its vigor and ability to harm the pan-Arab causes. It is the calm that precedes the storm — a storm which will begin in various forms after the election. This storm may be more diverse and powerful than previous storms. Therefore, we must be well prepared. The current period of relative calm in the U.S.-Israeli pressures must be exploited by refurbishing all pan-Arab weapons, enhancing the spirit of resistance and fighting, and taking necessary measures to protect gains we have realized and prevent the hands of the clock from going backwards.

TISHRIN Assails Reports on Talks With Israel

JN110746 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 11 Jul 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Regarding the Western circles' campaign to cast doubt on Syria's stand, *TISHRIN* writes: The allegations by some West-

ern propaganda media that Syrian-Israeli negotiations are being held on the issue of Lebanese security are fabrications and nonsense and come within the framework of casting doubt on Syria and its pan-Arab stands. In any case, this is not the first time Syria has faced campaigns of lies, fabrications, and doubts. This campaign will not be the last. Syria has been repeatedly exposed to such campaigns but was able to expose them, shed light on their motives, and lay bare the lies and false claims of their perpetrators.

Syria has only one policy: It only says what it thinks and it always does what it says it will do. Previous Syrian stands are enough proof to refute all lies and foil all anti- Syrian doubt casting campaigns.

Damascus Reports Unrest in Iraqi Kurdistan

JN101652 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Baghdad — The north of Iraq is witnessing an extensive popular uprising against the ruling regime in Baghdad. The regime's forces have been subjected to a number of military attacks, and a number of Western European experts working in the region have been kidnapped. Quoting Western diplomats and other informed sources, REUTERS said a number of incidents have taken place recently in remote areas of Iraqi Kurdistan and in Irbil, the capital of north Iraq. These incidents included a strike by Irbil University students after which 80 of them were arrested.

A number of foreigners have been kidnapped, and numerous clashes took place between the regime's forces and those loyal to it, and revolutionaries in north Iraq. These events occur at a time anti-regime broadcasting stations have increased their transmission hours to whip up popular zeal against the ruling regime.

Reports stress that tension in north Iraq has increased to a point where the regime has been forced to withdraw its plan of compulsory service for students to fight against Iran.

USSR, DPRK Call for Syrian Sports Cooperation

JN110740 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1425 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus, 10 Jul (SANA) — Samih Mudallal, president of the General Sports Union, received here this morning, separately, the DPRK ambassador in Damascus, and the cultural attache from the Soviet Union's Embassy in Damascus.

During his meeting, the DPRK ambassador conveyed greetings from the Korean Olympic Committee to the Syrian sports leadership. He also conveyed the Korean committee's request for support for the international Olympic position during the National Olympic Committees meeting in Los Angeles to demand the 24th Olympic games in 1988 not be held in Seoul, the capital of South Korea. This is because that particular region is threatened with nuclear war due to U.S. intervention, conspiracies taking place there, and Seoul's clear agentry to U.S. imperialism.

Mudallal stressed to be ambassador that Syria adopts a patriotic and national firm position against imperialism and its agents, and supports the DPRK and wants to sign an agreement of sports cooperation between the two countries to strengthen the sports march.

On the other hand, during his meeting with Mudallal, the Soviet cultural attache extended an official invitation to Syria to participate in an international tournament comprising a number of sports to be held in Moscow between 17-26 of next month. They also exchanged views on the activity of Soviet trainers in Syria and developing sports cooperation between Syria and the Soviet Union.

Diplomatic Ties With USSR Anniversary Marked

JN110757 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Damascus, 10 Jul (SANA) — The Syrian-Soviet Friendship Society this evening celebrated the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Syria and the USSR. The celebration was held at the conference hall of the Syrian General Federation of Trade Unions in Damascus.

'Isam an-Na'ib, assistant minister of foreign affairs, delivered a speech in which he extended his warmest congratulations to the Syrian people and the friendly USSR people on this occasion. This anniversary, he said, signifies Syria's desire at that time to establish the strongest ties with the peoples of the world, headed by the great USSR people.

An-Na'ib said Syria was the first country in the early 1950's to break the Western arms embargo. That embargo, he explained, was like a drawn sword whose purpose was to keep the Arabs isolated and weak in face of the Zionist enemy, backed by imperialism, headed by the United States.

An-Na'ib praised the distinguished relations between Syria and the USSR and said: We are confronting colonialism and imperialism from the same trench.

An-Na'ib also praised the October Revolution which established the first socialist state in the world and supported the just struggle of the colonized and oppressed peoples. He said: It was natural for distinguished relations to be established between Damascus and Moscow, thanks to the wise leaderships of Syria and the USSR represented by their two great parties — the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the CPSU — and also thanks to the guidance of their two secretary generals — comrade struggler President Hafiz al-Asad and Comrade Chernenko.

An-Na'ib then reviewed the history of the relations between the two countries and the Syrian-Soviet treaty of friendship and cooperation which further strengthened and consolidated these relations. He said: As pointed out by the struggler president on the day the friendship treaty was signed, this treaty is a historic landmark in the relations between the two countries and a basis for further promoting cooperation between the two countries.

An-Na'ib concluded his speech by saying the language of common struggle against imperialism and Zionism has united our

Arab people with the USSR peoples, thanks to great mutual confidence between the two great leaders — Comrade Hafiz al-Asad and Comrade Chernenko.

Comrade Vladimir Yukhin, Soviet ambassador in Damascus, also delivered a speech in which he thanked the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party under the leadership of its secretary general, comrade struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, and emphasized that this anniversary is a great event in the history of Soviet-Syrian relations and proof of the strong and firm cooperation between the USSR and Syria.

Comrade Yukhin recalled the statement of Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and president of the republic, in which he said Syrian relations are of a strategic nature and not linked to transient or temporary factors.

Comrade Yukhin renewed the USSR's support for Syria and the Arab nation against the imperialist-Zionist onslaught.

Comrade Yukhin said: We are not exaggerating when we say now in the view of the Soviet people and progressive forces Syria has become the symbol of the Arabs' steadfastness in their struggle agaisnt U.S.-Israeli plans.

The ambassador pointed out that Soviet-Syrian relations have been established on principled bases, which have been further consolidated by the treaty of friendship and cooperation signed between the two countries.

Concluding, the ambassador affirmed that the USSR will always side with the Arab peoples in their struggle for their legitimate rights and that the USSR will continue to stand by Syria in defense of its Arab rights and the liberation of occupied territories.

Dr Ahmad Dirgham, deputy chairman of the Syrian-Soviet Friendship Society, delivered a speech praising this anniversary and highly evaluting the existing good and friendly relations between the Syrian people and the friendly USSR peoples. The relations between our two countries, he said, are measured by their substance and creative development on all levels.

Dr Dirgham concluded his speech by saying: Our country's forward position in the world revolutionary movement requires a certain type of interaction with the liberation movements in the world. Our people and their progressive nationalist forces under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and its secretary general, Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, will continue their struggle alongside the world revolutionary forces, headed by the friendly USSR.

The celebration was attended by Daniyal Ni'mah, member of the central leadership of the Progressive National Front; Mrs Manwar Makhlutah, vice president of the Syrian Women General Federation; members of the Executive Bureau of the Syrian-Soviet Friendship Society; several Arab and Syria citizens; and members of the Soviet community in Damascus.

Shamir-Peres Debate on 10 July Broadcast

TA101614 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1840 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Televised debate between Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and opposition leader Shim'on Peres, moderated by Dan Patir, at Kefar Hamaccabiyya television studios in Ramat Gan at 0820 GMT on 10 July]

[Text] Dan Patir: Good evening. I welcome the two candidates in the upcoming elections, Mr Yitzhaq Shamir and Mr Shim'on Peres, to this agreed-upon debate. I also welcome Supreme Court Justice Gavri'el Bach, chairman of the Central Elections Committee, who is with us this evening.

The two parties represented in this debate have asked me to serve as moderator. Allow me to begin with a short statement: This is not a regular journalistic interview, nor is this a regular debate. The two sides have agreed in advance on its date, framework, procedures, topics, and their order of presentation. I phrased the questions. The two sides agreed on the rules of the game, which provided for a prior videotaping of the debate, which is to last 30 minutes. The topics, in their order of presentation, will be as follows: social matters, foreign affairs, economic issues, and security. The last question will deal with the participants' "credo." The questions are identical. Each candidate has 2 minutes to respond to the first four questions, and 3 minutes to answer the final one.

First question: A highly visible topic in the election campaign is the matter of the social gap, and all its aspects. How do you think the bitter aftertaste here can be bridged, or limited?

Shim'on Peres: Good evening, Mr Shamir; good evening, ladies and gentlemen. When I ask myself what characterized Israeli society in the first 30 years of the country's existence, it seems to me that the real and greatest characteristic is that we are a society of aliyah [immigration]. In the past 30 years our society increased by 400 percent (I am talking about aliyah, not about inflation...) and truly, all the resources were directed at the absorption of immigration, which entailed many hardships for the immigrants themselves, and rather strenuous efforts by the entire society.

In the past 7 years, aliyah has, unfortunately almost come to a standstill. Instead of an Israel which absorbs, we have an Israel which is worried. Our society is really worried about the gaps, the economic gaps. Even the haves are not certain what tomorrow may bring, and many find it hard to make ends meet by the end of the month. We have observed our wonderful agriculture being swallowed by interest rates, and our industry consumed and halted by inflation.

It is true that a beautiful project has been undertaken. That is Project Renewal [of rehabilitation of slum neighborhoods], Mr Shamir, but it only encompasses half of the slum areas that needed rehabilitation. This, furthermore, did not involve providing employment opportunities, and now, all that aside, the budget has run out. Well, then, things are hard for both young and old. If we change the order of priorities, revive our sense of social sensitivity, we will not consume and devour our children's future, but rather care for the future of all our children, reinstate the feeling of equality in our society, restore Israel's attractiveness, and rekindle in ourselves the true spirit of building and creating through effort.

Yitzhaq Shamir: Mr Peres, I watched you on the Alignment's propaganda broadcast last night, when — among other things — you told about your tours during which you were impressed by the fact that the ethnic problem is no longer discernible. This is largely true, but you forgot to say that this was achieved thanks to us, the Likud government.

Over the past 7 years, the Likud governments effected a revolution in the social sphere in this country, through our immense investment in social sectors, through Project Renewal, which continues and will be completed. By this we brought light, instilled a new taste for life in many, many people in Israel, and we have erased, yes, erased, the line that for many years clearly marked what was known as the "first Israel" and the "second Israel" [reference to Israelis of Eastern and Central European origin, considered privileged; and to those who came from North Africa and Islamic countries, considered underprivileged]. We have eliminated the term "second Israel" from our lives and, in fact, from the map. We again gave many a sense of belonging, out of self-respect and identification, to the people and the country. Many of them today shudder at the thought that the Alignment wants them to go back to slum neighborhoods and backward townlets, thereby recreating for us the experience of living in an atmosphere where one subordinates the other, and reinstituting the feeling of inferiority. This cannot be; it will not happen.

Dan Patir: The second question concerns Israel's foreign relations. It has now been 5 years since the peace agreement with Egypt was signed, approximately 2 years after the beginning of the Peace for Galilee war, and 4 months before the U.S. Presidential elections. I will present you with four issues which seem to be the essential points in Israel's foreign policy agenda, and you may answer in the order you choose.

One: The U.S. policy toward Israel after the November elections, including the future of the Reagan plan if President Reagan is reelected. Two: Guaranteeing coexistence with Lebanon, and the circumstances and conditions required for that. Three: The chances and risks of opening peace negotiations with Jordan. Are preconditions needed, and if so, what are they?

Four: Israeli-Egyptian relations, which the Egyptian foreign minister called a "cold peace."

Yitzhaq Shamir: Israel's foreign relations over the past 7 years have been characterized by the fact that it was precisely the Likud — which is opposed to territorial changes in Eretz Yisra'el and initiates and encourages massive establishment of settlements in all parts of Eretz Yisra'el — which succeeded in establishing excellent relations, as well as cooperation and aid, with the best and strongest of our friends, the United States. A considerable improvement in our relations with Europe and the Third World can also be mentioned.

I do not expect a change for the worse in our relations with the United States, if we continue to lead our country. Certainly, adventurous ideas about a repartition of Eretz Yisra'el may shake the fabric of these relations.

With regard to Jordan, in view of our loyalty to the Camp David accords, we have repeatedly said that we are ready to negotiate peace with the Jordanians at any time. I do not think that any preconditions are required in order to begin negotiations. However, the Jordanians are the ones demanding [tov'im] preconditions which we cannot grant. But we will negotiate with them in the spirit and letter of the Camp David accords.

We will try to improve our relations with Egypt in the framework of the "triangle" composed of the United States, Israel, and Egypt. We will demand [nitbah'] that the Egyptians implement those particular clauses in the accords that concern the normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel.

As for Lebanon, I do not think that there are any special political problems, but there is a security problem which will be resolved shortly.

Shim'on Peres: Mr Shamir, do you really believe that only the policy of annexation will lead to world support for us, and that if we seek peace the world will be against us? Are you not exaggerating a bit here?

I would like to say this: The foreign policy, or the Foreign Ministry, is no travel agency. The job of the Defense Ministry is to guarantee security, and the job of the Foreign Ministry is to seek peace.

Mr Shamir, everything you mentioned in reference to the future you could have done in the past. It was under your leadership that the foreign and peace policies have suffered bitter blows. In Egypt you paid a heavy price — evacuated the Sinai, dismantled the settlements, and burned down Yamit. But you, yourself say that for the price of peace we got only nonbelligerence.

In Lebanon you created a fiasco — good God, "peace" with yet another country. Yet what came of it? A sad joke, unfortunately.

You invite Husayn — but tell him that there is nothing to discuss.

Mr Dan Patir, I would like to tell you that we all have children who must serve in the Army. That service involves risks, too. Is it not our duty, the responsiibility of each one of us, to equip the child not only with the mobilization order but also with the hope for peace? The Alignment will search for peace without compromising on security matters, either. We launched peace with Egypt, we have plans for Jordan, and we are telling the Jordanians: Come, on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution 242.

In Lebanon — we will return to the policy of the Good Fence.

We need strong security, clever peace. I am sure that just as we succeeded in the security area for many years, we will have rather large successes in a foreign policy of peace for Israel, too.

Dan Patir: The third question has to do with the economic issue. The economy is an area in which the public has demonstrated intense interest during the election campaign. Your experts have broached various plans and proposals to resolve the outstanding difficulties in the economic sphere. Let me phrase the question more poignantly: What needs to be done, what could be done, and what do you intend to do immediately after forming the government?

Shim'on Peres: In regard to the economy as well, the Cabinet must be judged by its deeds, rather than by what it says it will do in the future. The opposition, on the other hand, should be judged by its plans, as it cannot conduct economic matters.

Mr Shamir, you had 7 years to direct Israel's economy, and where have you led us? You know, after all, that you have depleted the state coffers, that the foreign currency reserves have reached a danger point, and that you have encumbered us in foreign debts up to our ears. Mr Shamir, I would not like to strike too personal a note, but you have been prime minister for only 9 months, and during those 9 months inflation has skyrocketed from 200 to 400 percent — under your leadership. Do you know what would have happened in any other democratic regime?

You said you would cut government spending — yet nothing came of it. Now you are saying that you "will force the Histadrut" [to sign a social pact the gist of which is a freeze on salaries, taxes, and prices] — well, why have you not yet done so? I would like to know how you intend to force hundreds of thousands of workers to accept it. Is this any way to talk in a democracy?

You spent $9 billion over the past 7 years on settlements, villas in the territories, Lebanon, and the import policy. And after all that — 7 years and $3.5 billion — what have we gained? A mere 15,000 Jews in Judaea and Samaria? Is that what it is all about?

In Lebanon our predicament has worsened.

As for the import policy, it is wild and crazy — to the extent that Minister Moda'i said that the finance minister should have been put on trial. We import soda water from Britain, fruit juices from South Africa, and plaster from Romania. What is happening to us? We are harming the principle of "blue and white" [Israeli-made production] in both agriculture and industy.

We will reverse the import policy and turn it into an export policy. We will revert from the policy of absence of control to the policy of building a new economy... (at this point Mr Peres was cut off in midsentence, as his allotted 2 minutes had elapsed)

Yitzhaq Shamir: We have invested vastly over the past 7 years in an employment infrastructure. There is no unemployment in Israel, which is unique in the entire Western world. We spent huge amounts of money on social services, and as a result effected a necessary social revolution. As a result, and due to the security load and various developments in our region and in the entire world during those years, we have to face up to three fundamental economic problems today, and we are about to tackle them: curbing inflation, limiting the deficit in the balance of payment, and continuing economic growth.

There is absolutely no basis to the argument that ending the settlement drive in Judaea and Samaria will heal the malaise of inflation. Settling other regions will not cost any less. Besides, we did not bring 15,000 people to Judaea and Samaria, as you said Mr Peres, but approximately 30,000 during these past 7 years — and I have figures to prove that.

As for a hasty withdrawal from Lebanon — this, too, will serve no purpose. In general, the expenses involved at present are not the most important issue. What will we do to fight inflation? Immediately after the election, we will call for a social pact, as part of which we will decide on a price freeze, while maintaining real wages, observing a realistic rate of exchange, encouraging savings... (here Mr Shamir was stopped for lack of time)

Dan Patir: The security problem — I would like to mention four main points on the national agenda. Again, feel free to change their order, and by no means does the order of presentation correspond to their importance. One: The continuation of the IDF presence in Lebanon: Under which conditions will it be possible to withdraw the IDF from Lebanon? Is it possible to guarantee the security of the northern border without an IDF presence in southern Lebanon? Is it possible to mention a timetable for the withdrawal of the IDF in stages, or all at once? Two: On the same subject, the security front to the east. Three: The Syrian danger. Four: The continued terrorist activity and your views on this issue.

Yitzhaq Shamir: As for Lebanon — the IDF is in Lebanon and will leave Lebanon once we have attained security arrangements that would guarantee peace for the Galilee and prevent the return of terrorist organizations to the border. We are working to achieve this in order to hasten the withdrawal of the IDF by reinforcing the army of southern Lebanon and by efforts to have a dialogue with various segments of the local population. There is progress. I can say that recently we have been passing on responsibility for more and more areas and spheres to the army of southern Lebanon.

It is useless to mention dates and schedules — that would be presenting ourselves with an ultimatum, and would help our enemies to prevent us from achieving this goal.

As for the eastern front, it is clear that massive Jewish settlement between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean will guarantee the security of this region so vital to Israel. This will prevent the establishment of a Palestinian state or any other Arab regime — both of which represent a threat to Israel's security.

With regard to Syria, we are aware of its hostility and schemes. We believe that Israel's military strength and our international relations will deter Syria from engaging in challenges and ventures.

Concerning the terrorists, it is well known that they have suffered a shameful defeat, and have been significantly weakened. They still try to attack us, and we will strike at them when and where we deem fit.

Shim'on Peres: Mr Shamir, I hope that I will be using my famous sense of humor when I say that whoever listens to you or to the Likud propaganda gets the impression that the State of Israel was founded 7 years ago, and that prior to that time something resembling chaos existed. Let me tell you that the IDF was founded 36 years ago, and it is one of the best armies in the world. It has won every war and brought Egypt to the negotiating table. We founded the IDF, and we will reinforce it and depend on it alone — not on foreign armies.

We established the military, electronics, nuclear and aircraft industries, and we will continue to make Israel an independent country, with regard to exports as well.

Of course, our first mission is to strengthen the IDF, and we will have to ensure that we have defensible borders, and when we say it — we mean it.

We expelled the Jordanian Army from the West Bank, and we will not allow any Arab soldier to return there.

We removed the Syrian artillery from the Golan Heights, and the cannons will not return. We launched negotiations with Egypt and brought calm which continues to this day.

Mr Shamir, you have the Lebanese sector left to cope with, and Lebanon is the smallest and weakest of the Arab countries. You remember what you told us when we met during the Peace for Galilee operation: 40 kilometers, 3 days, and then the IDF will return and guarantee peace for the Galilee. If you had kept to this, there would be peace for the Galilee and for the IDF as well. We are convinced that it is possible to guarantee peace for the Galilee, bring the IDF home, and bring peace to the people and the state in not too long a period.

Dan Patir: Last question: I would like you to clarify and provide examples for the kind of country you would like to see 4 years from now.

Shim'on Peres: Shamir, you were in power for 7 years, and we were in the opposition for 7 years. You learned to make mistakes, we learned from our own mistakes. Perhaps the most important lesson is to heed the moods of the people. The people are tired of instigation, hatred, polarization — all of which, I regret to say, were contributed to so heavily by one party. If I am elected, I will conduct a policy of bringing the people from all sectors closer together on a national scale. I will do this with regard to the Arab and Druze minorities within our country, and with regard to our people as well — encompassing all the trends and views. It is necessary to choose a direction without jeopardizing the self-respect and honor of every individual, and without forgetting to listen to every view.

I am very proud to say that throughout this election campaign I have not been forced to employ an inciting style or one of character assassination. Nor did I react to such. We have children, and we are responsible for and answerable to them. In general, a nation cannot be built by difficult measures; rather, you unite a nation around central goals. The first objective is to unite the people; the second, to build a new economy. While in the opposition, we discovered that the world has changed and that today the world market is founded on natural instincts [hokhma tiv'it] and industrial sophistication.

Therefore, the second objective will be in the economic sphere — and I am talking as a man who, when still young, was given the task of establishing all the sophisticated industries of Israel. No one ever believed we would be building airplanes, or nuclear power plants, or computers. Ben-Gurion encouraged me though I was ridiculed by many, but we did it, and we can do it this time, too, throughout the country.

We will do this primarily in the development towns, from Elat to Qiryat Shemona. We need these towns, which are the backbone of our country; and the cities need it to provide employment for the young people ending their military service. They need it, and are capable of it.

The country should exist not on loans from American banks, but on brains, sophistication, production, and our own manufacturing.

Our third objective is to maintain Israel's military power, and we will seek ways for peace. We will do this most seriously, without compromising our security. We owe it to ourselves and the future of our people. I believe security and peace can be combined.

Mr Shamir, I want the country to live at peace with itself... (stopped by the time limit)

Yitzhaq Shamir: Elections come and go, and the country remains forever, and it is this country which we must care about. It is the country we dreamed about, for which we fought, and we must strengthen and fortify it. With this in mind, I can see three goals for the foreseeable future:

The first — to bring more Jews to Israel. It is necessary to make a tremendous effort to bring an additional 1 million Jews from all over the world in the next generation. This requires the help and cooperation of the various circles which comprise the people of ths country.

The second — To unite and fortify the unity of the people [ahduto velikudo], and weaken the elements that cause separation and diversity. The people of Israel need a stronger government — it is necessary to strengthen the operational apparatus of Israeli democracy. It is necessary to put an end to the excessive parliamentary factionalism in the Knesset, and the country must be given a greater chance and power to face dangers from within and from without. All this requires appropriate legislation.

The third goal, perhaps the most urgent, is to free ourselves, once and for all, of the economic weakness that has been Israel's fate from the first day of its existence. This is a danger and a weakness that threatens our social strength, as well as our military strength. There is no reason in the world why the people of Israel, with their potential, will not be able to overcome this weakness.

It is necessary to finally obtain the level of a free, advanced Western country, with technological development and human resources at its disposal.

All this, it seems to me, requires cooperation and a very united, concerted effort by all the positive segments of the people, the Zionists. Therefore, I believe that the political path I will choose will be to call for the establishment of a national unity government. And, God willing, if I am entrusted with the job of forming a government — with the help of the voters — I will appeal to all the responsible sectors of the public to join this initiative, and hope that my call will be answered.

Dan Patir: Thank you Mr Shamir, thank you Mr Peres, the debate has reached an end.

Poll Claims Peres Wins

TA110949 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 11 Jul 84 p 1

[Text] A *HA'ARETZ* poll was held after yesterday's television debate between Shamir and Peres. It showed that 62 percent of the people polled were of the opinion that Labor Party Chairman Shim'on peres appeared to be better than the Likud candidate, Yitzhaq Shamir. Some 31 percent said that Shamir was better. The other people polled did not have a clear preference.

Six percent of the viewers said that they changed their opinion concerning their vote in the coming elections as a result of the television debate. Among those who changed their opinion, 83 percent said that they were persuaded to vote for one of the opposition parties, while the others were persuaded to vote for a party which is a partner in the current coalition.

Among those who preferred Shim'on Peres, 77 percent said that they would vote for an opposition party, 10 percent for the coalition, 4 percent for the centrist parties, and the rest are still considered undecided or abstaining. Among those who preferred Shamir, 60 percent said that they would vote for the coalition, 13 percent for the opposition, and the rest characterized themselves as undecided or abstaining.

The percentage of those who preferred Shim'on Peres among the voters for the current coalition (the camp which is opposed to him) is higher than the percentage given to Shamir in the opposition camp. Some 22 percent of the coalition voters said that Shim'on Peres was better in the debate. Eight percent of the voters for the current opposition preferred Shamir in the debate.

The poll was conducted by telephone in the 2 hours following the debate, and included a sample of 140 people in Jewish urban centers all over the country.

Peres Raps Shamir Unity Government Proposal

TA110950 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 11 Jul 84 p 1

[Yosi Melman report]

[Excerpt] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres called Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's proposal to form a national unity government after the elections an "election trick." Yitzhaq Shamir broached the idea at the end of the television debate which was broadcast yesterday evening.

Questioned by *DAVAR*, Peres said that the Alignment had no intention of joining a government, but to form its own government which would propose an alternative to the Likud's policy.

"During his 9 months in office, Yitzhaq Shamir had the opportunity to form a national unity government, but he evaded this, and therefore his proposal is not realistic at all."

After the debate, Shamir himself refused to comment on the possibility that the Likud would join a national unity government headed by the Alignment after the elections.

NEW YORK TIMES Interviews Shamir 9 Jul

TA110911 Jerusalem Government Press Office in English 10 Jul 84

["Slightly abridged version (partisan politics deleted)" of interview, in English, with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by *NEW YORK TIMES* correspondent Thomas Friedman at Shamir's office in Jerusalem on 9 July 1984]

[Text]Question: The most important questions from the American readers' point of view are the wider questions on the peace settlement. You said in one of your opening campaign statements that Israel would not allow foreign rule ever over the West Bank. I wonder if you could elaborate on that, explain what you meant by that, and how that would relate to the Camp David accords.

Answer: Well, it's a known position. According to the Camp David agreements we have to negotiate, after a transition period of five years of autonomy; we have to negotiate about the political future, of the status — but everybody knows our position. Our position in these negotiations will be that we believe that these territories must be under the sovereignty of Israel. But we'll negotiate, and we'll make an effort to find agreed solutions.

Question: What would be the incentive for Jordan or any group of Palestinians to negotiate?

Answer: They will to have peace, to live together with us. It is our destiny that we have to live together, Jews and Arabs, and we have to find out the political framework for this co-existence. Therefore, in this process suggested or agreed on in Camp David, our positions are very, very fair; and it's necessary to find a way how to continue negotiations and to establish a process which will give a hope for an agreed solution.

Question: Under what conditions might Israel be prepared to trade territory for peace?

Answer: We don't accept this formula.... We will negotiate. We will listen to the demands of the other parties, they will listen to ours, and we will try to find out. Autonomy, for instance, could be a solution....

Question: So then the most you'd be prepared to offer in the context of a solution would be autonomy?

Answer: (unintelligible) According to the Camp David agreements we have to agree on the autonomy as a transition period, but one of the options may be — I don't know — that this situation continues. I don't know. Nobody discussed it so far. But it could be a solution. Maybe other solutions, I don't know. I think it's not very reasonable now to start to discuss developments after the autonomy period. If we are to agree on the autonomy, we have to concentrate all our efforts and our political will on the autonomy, and then we will see. Maybe if the autonomy succeeds, a new climate will be created, a climate of confidence, mutual confidence, and maybe this climate could bring new ideas.

Question: And you would be open to that?

Answer: Maybe.

Question: It appears that Mr Reagan, right now, is well ahead in the American campaign; it seems likely that he is going to win another term as President, and it seems likely that if he does, the "Reagan Plan" as an alternative is going to surface again. Would you be prepared to reconsider your government's opposition to the "Reagan Plan" if King Husayn, for instance, might be convinced to come forward?

Answer: Well, our position about these proposals, these ideas, this speech of the President of 1 September, is well known. The arguments for his position are also known. In our view, it is contradictory to the spirit in the Camp David agreements, because one of the main principles in the Camp David agreement was that before the transitional period of autonomy, nobody would discuss the final solutions, and these ideas discussed in the speech of the President contain some contradictions to this principle.

Question: So you would not be ready to reconsider your opposition?

Answer: We are open to any proposals, to any ideas, but this is our position.

Question: Egypt appears to be reestablishing diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union now; the Egyptian-Israeli normalization of relations are cool at best. Do you see Egypt drifting into a different mood right now, out of the spirit of Camp David? How do you assess this — it seems like a very serious development.

Answer: I wouldn't link it to the renewal of full diplomatic relations with Egypt. There is a change in the Egyptian attitude towards the Camp David agreements, but this change started after the disappearance of President As-Sadat. It's not new. It means the Egyptians' main political aim now is to renew their relations with the Arab countries, and to come again to the leading position in the Arab world. They would like to get it without abandoning the peace with Israel — but they are not interested in fulfilling the obligations in the Camp David agreements about normalization of relations with Israel. That means that their doctrine is now to have a peace with us, a formal peace without normal relations. In other words, it's a cold peace. We do not accept it. We think peace has to be peace. And peace means also full, normal relations. Peace means trade relations, tourism, cultural exchanges, and thousands of contacts between Israeli citizens and Egyptian citizens. Only such relations could change the climate in our area, and create a new atmosphere — an atmosphere of peace between peoples — because the meaning of peace is not merely a peace treaty signed by two countries; it has to be a kind of common line, cooperation between two peoples.

Question: Two weeks ago the Israeli Navy commandeered a boat between Cyprus and West Beirut. Five of the passengers were released, four are sitll being detained. What can you tell us?

Answer: I can only tell that we are compelled — and, i think, authorized — to take some measures in order to defend our security, to defend ourselves against terrorism; and this step must be seen in this respect.

Question: Can you tell us anything about the people you're holding; whether they were planning an operation, what group they might belong to?

Answer: I wouldn't give any details. It will not be helpful. The terrorist organizations are planning all the time operations against Israel, all the time. And it is our duty not to let them carry out things. And that's what we are doing.

Question: Why haven't you tried the multi-faceted approach the Labor Party says it would try in southern Lebanon?

Answer: We try all the time to create conditions in southern Lebanon which will enable us to pull out our army. We have no interest to stay in Lebanon; on the contrary, we would like to leave Lebanon as soon as possible. I don't think Labor has any realistic proposals which we don't know or which we didn't consider. I think — I'm sure — that we will leave Lebanon one day. I don't think it will be helpful to give a timetable for it; it would be, I think harmful... because if our enemies in and outside Lebanon will know the target date, they will do everything possible, until this date, (so that) Israel will not get the necessary security arrangements. Therefore, we are trying all the time to get these arrangements. The moment we will have it, we will leave immediately.

Question: Can you see that light at the end of the tunnel right now?

Answer: There are some lights. There are some positive signs. This army of General Lahd — it's an important element. They are getting stronger, there are many contacts, encouraging contacts with various local groups in the population in this direction, because the great majority of the population are not interested to have there terrorists. They would like to have a quiet life, and we have a common interest with them.

Question: Would you say given the instability in Beirut, the weakness of the Al-Jumayyil Government, that your basic approach right now is to create de facto relationships in south Lebanon? The May 17 agreement I assume now is a piece of history?

Answer: For us it's a good agreement, but the other party has not the will and the capacity to carry it out.

Question: So in the absence of that, your policy is really to create your own....

Answer: Yes. It may be one day that when this army of General Lahd will be strong enough, and on the other hand, we'll have the solid support of the population on which we can rely, there will be a possibility for sufficient security arrangements.

Question: And that would be satisfactory from your point of view — the political overlay isn't likely anymore?

Answer: We will be very glad if we will be faced with some changes, some positive changes. We are not excluding any possibility that will lead to this situation.

Question: Have you had any direct or indirect contacts with the Karami government since it's taken power — any signals that it's ready to negotiate quietly, maybe?

Answer: Well, you know Lebanon; there are many rumors. I cannot say anything at this moment.

Question: As a member of Israel's pre-state underground, how do you assess the underground that has now appeared in Judaea and Samaria, that has now been arrested — do you see this as a continuation of something in the past?

Answer: Not at all. I don't think there is or was an underground. It was some illegal activities, illegal and harmful. It is inconceivable that in an independent state such activities could find a place; and indeed, we did — and we do — everything to put an end to these activities. There is not any similarity between these activities and the fight of the underground against foreign rule, against foreign rulers. Our fight, and the fight of our underground in the 30's and 40's, was for the creation of a Jewish state. Now we have a Jewish state, and we cannot accept any activity, any harmful activity against the authority of this state.

Question: In an earlier interview, the press interpreted that you seemed to be leaving open the possibility of a pardon for these people. Is that a correct analysis?

Answer: I didn't say anything; I was asked if there is a way, and my answer was it's too early to discuss it now, because the subject is in court. You can consider a pardon after the judicial process is over. That's all. This interpretation is a kind of McCarthyism.

Question: McCarthyism? People trying to read it in the worst light?

Answer: Yes, it's McCarthyism — it's a witch hunt.

Question: Is there anything else you'd like to say?

Answer: I want to have peace. We have to solve our problems; we have economic problems, social problems. In order to get stronger we need to have here a far greater population; we need more Jews here. In the Middle East, it's not easy to exist as a nation of 4-5 million; it's not sufficient. We have to get much more. I hope that until twenty years, we have to be 6-7 million, and we need conditions for such a growth; and therefore we need peace, cooperation with all the factors in the area and with all international factors as far as possible. And I think we are doing not bad in this regard.

Question: Would you also stop building in densely-populated Arab areas?

Answer: We will build without any pause... we will not stop it. We have to build, it's our mission in this land, we have to have more cities, more centers of population, and we do it.

Jibril Sets Conditions For POW Release

TA110434 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0405 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] We will open this newsreel with another development about our prisoners. The three Israeli prisoners held by Ahmad Jibril's organization — Yosef Groff, Nisim Salem and Hezi Shay — were shown to journalists in Damascus last night. Jibril's organization has announced that as far as it is concerned, the three may be released within 24 hours if Israel meets its demands. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal is with us in the studio:

The spokesman of Jibril's organization, ('Umar Shihabi), said at the news conference last night that the condition for the release of Yosef Groff, Nisim Salem, and Hezi Shay is for Israel to release a group of members of its organization and allow some of them to remain in the territories.

It was announced on Sunday that Israel is holding 121 of Jibril's men. In a newspaper interview published in Lebanon, Jibril said that his nephew is included among the prisoners held by Israel. Another condition raised by the spokesman is that if a prisoner exchange is effected, it should not be connected to any other prisoner exchange.

In the news conference in Damascus last night, Jibril's spokesman said that his organization had made the decisive move in anticipation of a prisoner exchange, and that the ball was now in Israel's court. A correspondent who was present at the news conference reported that the three Israelis looked healthy.

This morning, we asked the head of the defense establishment's team dealing with the prisoners of war and missing soldiers, Shmu'el Tamir, for his reaction to these developments, particularly the presentation of the three Israelis to journalists last night:

[Begin recording] [Tamir] First of all, we are happy that neutral elements have seen the three Israeli prisoners — Hezi Shay, Nisim Salem, and Yosef Groff — and found them fit and in good health. Initially, they were seen by Austrian Ambassador to Greece Dr Amry, yesterday they were seen by representatives of the International Red Cross [IRC], and last night they were shown to foreign correspondents at a news conference held in Damascus. This is a most important fact on its own merit.

Secondly, we take a positive view of the fact that after 2 years, during which they refused to negotiate, in the wake of the prisoner exchange with Syria and the showing of Hezi Shay, there is a declaration of intent in principle on the part of Jibril's organization to open negotiations about an exchange of prisoners and detainees through the IRC. This willingness will be tested in practice.

[Tal] Mr Tamir, how do you regard the conditions posed by Jibril? Conditions were raised for the release of the three prisoners in that same news conference. They also say that the ball is now in Israel's court.

[Tamir] Throughout this period and, of course also now, Israel is interested in opening negotiations about a prisoner exchange at once through the IRC and without any preconditions. The announcement issued by Jibril's organization stated that their conditions have been conveyed to the IRC. Despite our frequent requests, we have not yet received any proposals whatsoever from the IRC, and we will once again look into this matter very shortly.

[Tal] Do the conditions disclosed so far — to release a certain number of Jibril's men held prisoner in Israel and to allow some of them to remain in the territories — seem reasonable?

[Tamir] I must point out that just as in the negotiations that led to the release of the prisoners held in Tripoli 9 months ago, just as in the negotiations which recently brought about the release of another six prisoners held by Syria, and just as during the negotiations which brought about the disclosure and display of the Armored Corps man, Hezi Shay, this time too we will conduct the negotiations through the IRC or any other neutral element rather than over the radio.

On our part, we will do everything necessary to open negotiations, and we will make every possible effort so that these negotiations culminate in success.

[Tal] Mr Tamir, how do you see the development and pace of these negotiations?

[Tamir] This depends on the other side. The other side has only just now announced its willingness to enter negotiations, which will now be tested in practice once the negotiations begin. [end recording]

IRC Visits Palestinians At Detention Camp

TA110510 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] In Geneva, the International Red Cross [IRC] spokesman told a Voice of Israel reporter that IRC representatives recently visited 121 Palestinians at the detention camp in 'Atlit in northern Israel. The visit was made possible by the recent agreement with Ahmad Jibril's organization, the spokesman said. Previously, Israel had prevented IRC visits to these prisoners.

Arens: Ready To Exchange Prisoners for Druze

TA110458 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Israel's Minister of Defense Moshe Arens says Israel is willing to carry out a prisoner exchange with the Nayif Hawatimah terrorist group. Israel would return Hawatimah's men being held prisoner, said Arens, in exchange for the Israeli Druze soldier, Samir As'ad. The defense minister visited the family of

Samir As'ad yesterday in the Druze village of Beit Jann. He said Israel has no confirmation that As'ad was killed during an Israeli air raid on Palm Island off Tripoli, as the Hawatimah group claims.

Two Lebanese From Intercepted Ferry Released

TA111043 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Two of the four Cypriot ferry passengers still held by Israeli authorities have been released. International Red Cross [IRC] spokesman Jean-Jacques Kurtz told reporter Alan Ben-'Ami that the two men had been handed over to the IRC this morning and driven across the border to Lebanon. They were named as Mazin Masri and ('Az ad-Din 'Uwaydat). Of the two others still being held, one is said to be a woman. All together, nine people were taken off the ferry *Alisur Blanco* and questioned, after Israeli authorities have been warned of a planned terrorist action from the sea.

Planned 'Spectacular Attack'

TA111113 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Two of the people detained aboard the ferry which was making its way from Cyprus to Beirut, and which was brought to Israel, are suspected of having planned a terrorist attack from the sea. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that the two are a brother and sister of Palestinian origin who lived in Lebanon. They were apprehended due to an intelligence tip.

Authoritative sources in Jerusalem have said that in the wake of their apprehension, Israel foiled a spectacular terrorist attack from the sea. Two other detainees who were released today were handed over to the representative of the International Red Cross and transferred to Lebanon.

Explosion on Soviet Freighter in Suez Gulf

TA102015 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] An explosion occurred on board a Soviet freighter in the Gulf of Suez, but the circumstances of the explosion are unclear. No one from the crew was hurt, and there was little damage. The Soviet ship, (Claude Gesperssen), is carrying cargo to the DPRK. The Egyptians have instructed the captain not to continue sailing before an investigation is completed.

Soviets Reportedly Train Jordanians On Missiles

TA110659 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 11 Jul 84 p 11

[Text] Russian military experts have been staying in Jordan for some time training Jordanian officers in the operation of SAM-8's which arrived in Jordan about 1 year ago.

The Russian SAM-8's are to be integrated into the Jordanian air defense configuration which is based on U.S. weapons, particularly on stationary Hawk missiles limited in their coverage to Jordanian airspace.

PLO Intentions, Ties With Other Groups Viewed

TA111024 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 11 Jul 84 p 2

[Dani Rubinstein report]

[Text] The PLO is waiting for the elections in Israel and is arguing about whether to resume and expand its terrorist policies, a foreign Western source told the *DAVAR* correspondent last night. Some days ago the source spent several days in Tunisia where he met with 'Arafat and other PLO leaders.

During the talk, 'Arafat said the PNC is scheduled to meet in mid-August, and it seems that the decisions taken there will be influenced by the results of the Israeli elections. The source said that 'Arafat contradicted himself concerning the Israeli elections. At first he contended that there was no actual difference between the Alignment and the Likud, but later he pointed out that under the Alignment's rule the situation in the West Bank might change and an opening might be created for negotiations with Jordan and the Palestinians.

They talked about the internal problems within the PLO, about the arrangement between Fatah and the organizations of Hawatimah and George Habash (in Yemen), and about the talks currently taking place in order to achieve a reconciliation with the Syrian-sponsored Palestinian groups (As-Sa'iqah and Ahmad Jibril).

The foreign source received the impression that the PLO leaders are in low spirits because they do not know whether the Palestinians have a chance in the negotiations which would be held between Jordan and Israel. On the other hand, they do not wish to return to a policy of large-scale terrorism. The source added that in his opinion, Abu Iyad represents the more radical line within Fatah, which is pushing toward increasing the use of terrorism and the thousands of Palestinians who were in army camps in Tunisia and Algiers and have returned to the Middle East.

Katyusha Falls Near Tyre, No Casualties

TA101930 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] A 107 mm Katyusha rocket, the type possessed by the terrorists, fell near Tyre this afternoon. No one was hurt. A large IDF unit arrived at the site and located a crater created by the explosion. It is believed that the rocket was directed at an IDF installation in the area.

IDF forces are searching for those who planted the bomb in the car belonging to the mayor of As-Sarafand, in southern Lebanon, killing Mayor Jawad Khalifah.

Ugandan Official Heads OAU Mission to USSR
EA102209 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Excerpts] An OAU liberation committee delegation led by Uganda's minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Picho Owiny, has held talks with the deputy president of the Supreme Soviet, Mr (Palev) in Moscow. The delegation is on a mission which will take them to the Nordic countries, the Soviet Union, and other socialist countries to solicit humanitarian and material assistance for the liberation movements in southern Africa, especially SWAPO.

Welcoming them, Mr (Palev) noted with concern that the situation in Africa remains unstable, especially as a result of the involvement of imperialist forces in southern African countries. He said imperialist forces are continuing to pursue a policy of involving Africa in the global military power politics. He pledged continued Soviet support to African liberation movements.

Dr Picho Owiny thanked Mr (Palev) for the warm welcome and excellent hospitality accorded to his delegation which is on a mission to the Soviet Union and other socialist and Nordic countries, as a result of the decision of the 41st session of the OAU liberation committee. The minister said the support extended to the liberation movements by the Soviet Union since the inception of the struggle is appreciated by Africa. He said the struggle has reached a critical stage and the liberation movements need the support of the Soviet Union more than ever before.

He informed Mr (Palev) that the current political and economic situation in Africa has affected the OAU and created some difficulties for the liberation movement in the prosecution of the struggle. It has also reduced the capacity of the individual African countries to aid the liberation movements.

ALGERIA

Envoy Delivers Al-Qadhdhafi Message
LD101628 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1555 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Algiers, 10 Jul (JANA) — President Chadli Bendjedid of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria this afternoon received Brother Muhammad Abu al-Qasim az-Zuwayy who handed him a written message from the brother leader of the revolution concerning joint Arab action on issues of strategy and the future of the Arab nation. Brother az-Zuwayy arrived in Algiers at noon today from Tunis, where he handed a similar message to Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba.

Madagascar Foreign Minister Arrives in Algiers
MB110542 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 0430 GMT 10 Jun 84

[Text] Madagascar Minister of Foreign Affairs Jean Bemananjara arrived in Algiers yesterday with a message from President Didier Ratsiraka to President Chadli Bendjedid. The content of the message was not disclosed to the press but it is believed to center on African politics, notably the diplomatic efforts [words indistinct] to have the next OAU summit meeting in Addis Ababa.

Cooperation Protocol Signed With Saharan 'Union'
LD101417 Algiers APS in English 1050 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Algiers, 10 Jul (APS) — Talks were held in Algiers between the Algerian and the Saharan unions in presence of high level figures. Talks which were focused over the means and the ways to reinforce and to consolidate the Algerian and the Saharan [words indistinct] were sanctioned by cooperation protocol between the two organisations. This protocol of cooperation occurs in the aftermath of the latest congress of Polisario Front and steps necessitating the intensification between the two organisations for the edification of the Greater Arab Maghreb.

The two sides also dealt with the various international and regional questions especially the preparations for the participation in the world festival of the young and the students expected for 1985 and with form of youth of Mediterranean countries which is expected to be held during the coming year.

It is worth noting, in this context, that Saharan children took part at present in the camp of the international friendship of [word indistinct] which was inaugurated in Ben-Aknoun.

LIBYA

Leader Telephones Syrian President al-Asad
LD101011 Tripoli JANA in English 0907 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Tripoli, 12 Shawal, 10 July, JAMAHIRIYA NEWS AGENCY — A telephone contact was made last night between the leader of the revolution and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

Kuwaiti Official Holds Tripoli Talks on Islam, Muslims
LD101023 Tripoli JANA in English 0908 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Tripoli, 12 Shawal, 10 July, JAMAHIRIYA NEWS AGENCY — 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, the Kuwaiti state minister for Cabinet affairs has praised the efforts exerted by the Jamahiriyah in spreading and preaching Islam in different parts of the world. He said in a meeting held last night, at the headquarters of the Islamic Call Society in Tripoli with Dr. Muhammad Ahmad ash-Sharif, secretary general of the society, that "we highly regard the efforts exerted by the Jamahiriyah in spreading Islam and establishing Islamic centres and constructing mosques and clinics and sending convoys of preachers to preach the true Islamic religion in different parts of the world".

The meeting was attended, also, by the secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison People's Bureau and secretary of the General People's Committee for Education and a number of specialists in the field of Islamic call.

The meeting discussed coordination between the Jamahiriyah and Kuwait in providing services to the Moslems in every part of the world and means of implementing joint actions in building mosques, clinics and Islamic centres in accordance with what has been agreed upon in the meetings of the Libyan Arab - Kuwaiti joint committee, in this respect.

GUNT Statement Condemning Chad's Habre Reported
LD101714 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1545 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Bardai, 10 Jul (JANA) — GUNT [Transitional National Union Government] has condemned the conspiracies and obstructions by which mutinous Habre tries to destroy the hopes of the people of Chad for restoring peace to their country. In a statement from Bardai yesterday, GUNT stressed its complete readiness for any national reconciliation implemented within the framework of the OAU and within the framework of the Lagos agreement. This is to restore peace to Chad and to preserve the abilities and wealth of the people of Chad.

The statement pointed out mutinous Habre's attempts to obstruct the chances for peace in Chad when the chairman of the mutiny in Ndjamina refused to go to Addis Ababa last January. Now he is trying to defeat the reconciliation conference, to be held in Brazzaville and on which all the people of Chad put .heir hopes for restoring peace and stability to the country.

In its statement, GUNT explained that mutinous Habre does not feel the tragedy and difficulties of the people of Chad, who are suffering from occupation by French, American and Zairean military forces on their land. For the second time, he made statements which lead to obstructing the expected Brazzaville conference. Facing up to this stand by the leader of the Ndjamena gang and those who support and protect him, GUNT — which is always struggling to hold a meeting of the leaders of the fronts of Chad — rejects all the unconstructive and unrealistic ideas which call for a preparatory meeting for the suggested conference.

The statement stressed that the reconciliation meeting should be within the framework of legitimacy. Therefore, it must be according to the Lagos agreement. Recognizing the role and efforts of the OAU, exerted toward solving the crisis of Chad, GunT stresses that every reconciliation meeting must take place under the supervision of the OAU.

The statement added that to fulfill the wish to restore peace to Chad we will accept, in some cases, the idea of a preparatory meeting for technicians on condition the French, American and Zairean forces withdraw from the territories of Chad.

At the end of its statement, GUNT drew the attention of national and international public opinion to the fact the responsibility for establishing peace and stability in Chad now lies on the shoulders of the mutineers in Ndjamena and their masters who should have brought the mutinous Habre to his senses instead of following his actions.

MAURITANIA

Haydala Reaffirms Neutrality on Western Sahara

AB101635 Paris AFP in French 1403 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Nouakchott, 10 Jul (AFP) — Mauritanian Head of State Lieutenant Colonel Khouna Ould Haydala today reaffirmed his country's neutrality in the Western Sahara conflict. In a speech on the occasion of the sixth anniversary of the military takeover on 10 Jul 1978, the Mauritanian head of state recalled that "the recognition of the SDAR was proclaimed (last February) in view of refusal by the brotherly Kingdom of Morocco to implement the resolution of the 19th OAU summit" (which called for the holding of a self-determination referendum in Western Sahara).

"However," he said, "this decision changes nothing in our neutral position in the fratricidal conflict." He added that Mauritania still feels "that direct negotiations between Moroccans and Saharans are the most appropriate way to achieve a just and lasting peace."

"Our recent joining of the Inter-Maghreb Pact of Concord and Fraternity will undoubtedly contibute to the strengthening of ties of friendship and cooperation among countries of the region," Ould Haydala said. He emphasized that "normalization (of relations betweenn Morocco and Mauritania) depends on sincere and correct implementation of the At-Ta'if agreement and on strict abidance by the universal principles of peaceful coexistence." The At-Ta'if agreement, signed in 1981 between Morocco and Mauritania, stipulated that each of the two countries should pledge not to allow subversive activities against the other on its territory.

Mauritania holds the view that Morocco is not abiding by the agreement and accuses Morocco notably of sheltering Mauritanian opponents who attempt to overthrow the Nouakchott regime.

Lastly, on Chad, the Mauritanian president expressed the hope for a definitive peaceful settlement of the conflict at the projected conference in Brazzaville.

AFP: Television Headquarters Inaugurated

AB101817 Paris AFP in French 1642 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Nouakchott, 10 Jul (AFP) — The Mauritanian Television House was inaugurated last Monday in Nouakchott by the head of state Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad Khouna Ould Haydala, within the framework of the festivities marking the anniversary of the national day. The new center, worth 450 million ouguiyas or FR 45 million, has up-to-date equipment made by the French Thomson-CSFWA Company, and was entirely financed by the Iraqi Government. French cooperation covered the training of Mauritanian television technicians.

The Nouakchott television transmitter will initially have a 100-km range. However, programs already began some months ago and can be received in favorable atmosphere conditions as far as 600 or 700 km, as a result of the very flat relief of the south of Mauritania.

Haydala Decree Commutes, Reduces Prison Terms

AB101135 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] By decree dated today, the chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state, granted, on the occasion of the 10 July annual celebration of our national Armed Forces, a summary pardon to persons sentenced for breach of state security or national defense. Thus, persons sentenced to prison terms or hard labor received a total remission of their sentences. Those sentenced to life imprisonement with hard labor had their sentences commuted to 20-year prison terms.

MOROCCO

Cooperation Minister Holds 'Fruitful Talks' in CSSR

PM100940 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 30 Jun 84 p 2

[MAP report: "Positive Results of Abdelouahed Radi's Visit to Prague"]

[Text] Rabat, 30 Jun — Cooperation Minister Abdelouahed Radi returned to Morocco Thursday evening ending a visit to Czechoslovakia during which he headed the Moroccan delegation to the second session of the Moroccan-Czechoslovak Joint Committee.

In a statement to the press on his arrival at Rabat-Sale Airport Mr Radi described the results of the session as "positive," stressing both sides emphasized the need to establish a balance of trade and to work together to promote trade.

The two delegations he continued, agreed on exchange visits by economic delegations and on these delegations' attendance at exhibitions organized in the two countries. He said it was agreed to carry out several projects and to raise the level of bilateral cooperation in the commercial, scientific, technological, financial, and cultural fields. The two countries, he said, signed an agreement on avoiding duplication of taxes between Morocco and Czechoslovakia.

Mr Radi also said he had several contacts with Czechoslovak officials, in particular with the foreign trade minister, the finance minister, the deputy prime minister, and the deputy foreign minister, and added he talked with officials of the Czechoslovak National Front on international matters in general and on the situation in North West Africa in particular.

Mr Abdelouahed Radi described the decisions taken by the joint committee session as specific and his talks with Czechoslovak leaders as fruitful.

During his visit the cooperation minister also signed a convention on duplication of taxes with Federal Finance Minister Leopold Ler.

The two ministers stressed that the convention will help to strengthen bilateral cooperation.

Mr Abdelouahed Radi also had talks with the Czech minister of traditional industry [Le ministre tcheque de l'Artisanat] on prospects for cooperation between the two countries in traditional industry.

Regarding cultural cooperation the two sides agreed to continue their talks in Rabat between experts with a view to drawing up an executive plan for the years 1984-86.

Those present at the meeting also confirmed both countries' desire to consolidate their cooperation and noted with satisfaction the progress made in the attainment of the objectives set by the joint committee at its last session in Morocco.

Plight of Refugees in Algeria Viewed

LD101515 Rabat MAP in English 1232 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Rabat, July 10 (MAP) — Algeria will take advantage of the holding in Geneva of the International Conference on Refugees to request from the international community aid that will be used in her policy which is hostile to Morocco and to Moroccan territorial unity, wrote this Tuesday *AL-ITTIHAD AL-ICHTIRAQI*, organ of the Socialist Union of Popular Forces (USFP-Socialist).

In an editorial entitled "Algeria and the Geneva Conference on Refugees", the daily affirmed that Algeria would insist during this conference (9 to 11 July) on the astronomical sums she allocates to refugees on her territories.

Among these refugees, the daily explained, there are Moroccans native of the Sahara who had been displaced and there are refugees from African countries affected by drought since 1973 that Algerian authorities have kept to carry out their hegemonist plots by intensifying the separatist action against Morocco.

The daily then noted that it seems that the solutions to be opted by the conference in Geneva are either the settlement of the refugees in the territories they are living in or their return to their mother lands.

"We, in Morocco, are highly interested by the issue", the daily explained, "because Moroccan citizens natives of the Sahara are being sequestrated in Tindouf (south-west Algeria) and are being manipulated by the Algerian Government against their homeland, Morocco, some Moroccans have escaped from Tindouf and returned to Morocco, but the rest of the refugees are odiously exploited".

"For all these reasons," the daily noted, "all conditions must be gathered for the return of these refugees, and concerned international organizations must fulfill their duty, ask for their liberation and help them to return to their homeland".

SUDAN

Two Air Force Pilots Die During Training

JN101450 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Khartoum, 10 Jul (SUNA) — Two Air Force officers were martyred during a training mission at the (Wadi Sayyidna) base this morning. The defense minister, the commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, and the command of the People's Armed Forces mourned the two martyrs, Najor Pilot al-Mu'tasim Billah Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim and Major Pilot Mahjub Husayn 'Uthman.

Report on Security in Upper Nile Province

JN101845 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1742 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Khartoum, 10 Jul (SUNA) — (Philip Obang), Upper Nile Province deputy governor, announced the People's Armed Forces are in full control of the situation in the cities of Malakal, An-Nasir, (Fashla), and Akobo. In a press statement today, his excellency also said the People's Armed Forces have completely foiled all outlaw attempts to infiltrate these cities during the past few weeks. He added the outlaws have sustained heavy losses in life and equipment and the citizens in the province's cities stand behind their forces. He also said security prevails in the province and supplies easily reach the citizens.

TUNISIA

Prime Minister Mzali Meets With Libyan Envoy

LD102127 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Mohamed Mzali, prime minister and minister of the interior, received the Libyan envoy to the great struggler. After the meeting, the envoy said he had discussed with Prime Minister Mzali bilateral relations and the means of their activation, in addition to a number of issues concerning the current Arab situation, the challenges and the liberation of the Palestinian land, support for Arab causes, resistance to backwardness, and the elimination of current Arab problems. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi.

Bourguiba Receives Al-Qadhdhafi Envoy

LD101556 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Today President Bourguiba received Muhammad Abu al-Qasim az-Zuwayy, envoy of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to the great combatant. The Libyan envoy delivered a written message from Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi pertaining to the current circumstances through which the Arab homeland is passing and giving practical proposals to overcome these circumstances.

WESTERN SAHARA

APS: SDAR Reports Action Against Moroccan Forces

LD101735 Algiers APS in Arabic 1430 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] The Liberated Territories, 10 Jul (APS) — Saharan Democratic Arab Republic Ministry of Information announced today that 8 Moroccan soldiers were killed and 16 others wounded in an attack launched last Saturday [7 July] by a unit of the Sahran Liberation Army against the position of Moroccan royal forces in (Skekimah) near the wall of shame built by Hassan II.

The Saharan statement added that Moroccan soldiers fled from their position, leaving behind the wreckage of a landrover, 23-mm artillery battery, and 120-mm mortar. Our fighters destroyed these weapons and a number of trenches.

The Saharan statement also stated that for a full hour last Sunday [8 July] the Saharan fighters stormed the control post set up by the Moroccan royal forces on one of the peaks of the Ouarkziz Mountains. In this post, too, our fighters clashed with the king's soldiers, who withdrew after 1 hour of fighting, leaving behind five bodies of their comrades. On the same Sunday two units of the Saharan People's Liberation Army shelled for half an hour two royal positions in (?El Jachbien) and (?Ratmia). The first shelling resulted in the killing of six of the king's soldiers and the wounding of a similar number and the destruction of several enemy's trenches.

During the second shelling six Moroccan soldiers were killed and eight others wounded and two advanced enemy positions were destroyed. The statement said on 6 July the Saharan fighters opened artillery fire on the Moroccan position at (?Ratmia) for half an hour killing four soldiers and wounding six others of the Moroccan forces. The (?Ratmia) position had been subjected to similar shelling on 22 June and 4 July, causing great human and material losses among the enemy's ranks.

CHAD

GUNT Communique on Ndjamena 'False Accusations'

AB101110 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 9 Jul 84

[Summary] A few days before the possible opening of the reconciliation conference in Brazzaville, French imperialism and the reactionaries in Chad have engaged in delaying tactics aimed at bringing about the failure of the conference.

In this regard, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] immediately issued the following communique:

Within the framework of the efforts being made by the OAU and peace- and justice-loving countries, the president of the People's Republic of Congo is going to organize a roundtable conference to be attended by all the Chadian factions which signed the Lagos accords.

But the Ndjamena clique, which is manipulated by French imperialism, is multiplying statements and making false accusations. Moreover, for some days now some mass media have been publishing articles that are nothing but the concrete demonstration of their shameless manipulation by imperialism.

GABON

President Comments on Chad Conference

AB091644 Conakry Domestic Service in French 0645 GMT 9 Jul 84

[Text] A Guinean delegation visited Gabon 3-7 July 1984. On this occasion our reporter (Sankamora) asked President El-Hadj Omar Bongo about his country's stance on the national reconciliation conference on Chad:

[Begin Bongo recording] In my opinion, the conference must be very simple. That is, the president of the People's Republic of the Congo will receive the presidents and all Chadian brothers and then the Chadian brothers will be left to themselves and given the chance to say what they like and to understand each other.

And if I have something to ask of them, I will ask each side to come with its problems in a way that will facilitate that task of President Sassou-Nguesso in Brazzaville. If I say President Sassou, it is because I think that only with President Sassou opening the session and leaving the Chadians all alone to themselves in a conclave will it be better for the Chadians than for us of the CAR, Gabon, Cameroon, Libya, Egypt, and Suban to participate, because if we participate in the Brazzaville conference what will happen?

Each one of us has his favorite man he will want to occupy this or the other post. But if the Chadians are left to themselves, I think it will be easy to find a solution and I think that by leaving the Chadians all to themselves, they will reach a solution which will lead Chad to unity through discussions. [end recording].

ZAIRE

Belgium Holds Opposition Figures Before Mobutu Visit

AB101644 Paris AFP in English 1613 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Brussels, July 10 (AFP) — Three members of the Zairian opposition have been placed under house arrest through the forthcoming visit to Belgium of Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko.

President Mobutu is scheduled to visit Brussels from July 11 to 14. The three were picked up by Belgian police yesterday.

One of the three was identified as Makabu ma Kalambay. No names were given for the other two, but all were said to have signed an open letter to President Mobutu last month in which they criticized scheduled presidential elections in Zaire.

President Mobutu held the letter to be an attack on his position as chief of state, and the Belgian Justice Ministry, saying it constituted an attack against state security, issued the house arrest orders.

(In Paris, an opposition movement known as the Renovated Congolese National Movement today accused President Mobutu of bringing the elections forward from November to late July in order to escape the consequences of a new devaluation of the Zairian currency.

(Movement leader Paul-Roger Mokede told a news conference that he expected a 100 percent devaluation in September. He also forecast that borders would be closed from July 15, and no citizens would be allowed to leave before voting.)

Opposition Figure Holds Paris Press Conference

AB102145 Paris AFP in French 1639 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Paris, 10 July (AFP) — A Zairian opposition movement, the Renovated Congolese National Movement (Renovated-CNM) disclosed today that it has called for the release of Law Professor Marcel Liahu, the former president of the Supreme Court of Justice, who is presently in confinement in his home town.

At a press conference, Paul-Roger Mokede, the chairman of the movement, stated that Mr Liahu was put under confinement a year ago by President Mobutu's government for "refusing to condone the practice of hasty trials" prevailing in Zaire.

Mr Mokede further asserted that Cardinal Malula, Archbishop of Kinshasa, is now under house arrest while 13 parliamentarians of the Union for Democracy and Social Progress (UDSP) have also been restricted to their home towns.

The press conference started after a delay of 30 minutes. Mr Mokede pointed out that he was delayed by two police commissioners who detained him as he was coming out of his residence and tried to prevent him from holding the press conference.

NIGERIA

Government Asks for Dikko Extradition, Apology

AB110650 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] The Federal Military Government has formally asked for the extradition of Umaru Dikko to Nigeria to answer questions on his activities as a former minister in the defunct civilian administration. The government has also requested that Captain Howard and his co-pilot be returned to Nigeria to answer questions on the breach of Nigeria's airport security regulations and violations of her airspace.

The Federal Government stand was made known to the British Government in Lagos yesterday at a meeting between the acting minister for external affairs, Alhaji Abdullahi Ibrahim, and the British high commissioner to Nigeria, Hamilton Whyte. The minister expressed Nigeria's grave concern not only on the tone but the twist which the British mass media have been reporting events on the Nigeria side. Alhaji Abdullahi cited the case of the crew and passengers of the detained British Caledonian plane alleged to have been subjected to inhuman treatment. He said that contrary to the experiences of the crew of the detained Nigerian plane, the British pilots were housed in the special government rest house, normally used for visiting heads of state and foreign dignitaries.

Recounting the sad experience of the Nigerian pilots who were stripped naked and kept in the nude for over 12 hours, the minister stated that the Federal Government (?rejected) this as an uncivilized manner to treat citizens of another friendly country who should be presumed innocent until proved guilty. Alhaji Abdullahi told the British high commissioner that in the interest of the traditional friendly relations between Nigeria and Britain, Nigeria demanded an unreserved apology from Britain over the obvious acts of barbarity.

More on Government Requests

OW102330 Hong Kong AFP in English 2318 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Lagos, July 10 (AFP) — The Nigerian Government today asked Britain to extradite former Transport Minister Umaru Dikko, who was rescued from a kidnap attempt near London last week.

The request came in an official protest note delivered here to the British High Commission by Aviation Minister [as heard] Abdullahi Ibrahim, who is acting as foreign minister.

The note voiced the "grave concern" of the Nigerian Government concerning "the tone and the twist with which the British media, particularly the BBC, has been reporting the events on the Nigerian side".

That was a reference to British reports that the passengers and crew of a British Caledonian flight had been detained and badly treated here.

The note said the passengers had never been held, while the crew had been lodged in an exclusive part of the capital normally reserved for heads of state and ministers. Independent sources confirmed that had been the case.

The protest note said that in contrast, the crew of a Nigerian Airways Boeing held at Stansted Airport near London after the discovery of Mr Dikko — drugged in a packing case for shipment to Lagos — had been stripped and had samples of their fingernails and hair taken by polices.

They had been left unclothed for more than 12 (?hours in) "unkind weather" and photographed.

The note said Nigeria "rejects that this is the civilized manner" and said that Nigeria demanded "an unreserved apology from Britain over this obvious act of barbarism".

The note said the Federal Government had been informed that Mr Dikko was "now in the possession of Her Majesty's government." Consequently, it wants the British envoy to convey the following request to his government: That Umaru Dikko should be returned to Nigeria to answer questions on his activities as a former minister in the defunct civilian (?government).

(Mr Dikko, reputedly a millionaire, is wanted on corruption charges by the military government which seized power here on New Year's Eve).

The note also asked for the extradition of two British pilots in connection with an incident at Lagos Airport on May 19 in which they allegedly seized a plane illegally and left the country.

The note claimed "their brazen act was with the connivance and assistance of the British High Commission". It said captain Michael Howard and his co-pilot were wanted here "to answer questions on their breach of Nigerian airport security regulations and violation of her airspace".

Lagos: 'Observers' Calling for Suspending Relations

AB111003 Lagos International Service in English
0830 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Observers in Lagos have called on the Federal Military Government to suspend diplomatic and other relations with Britain. They described Britain as the father of colonialism and racial discrimination in Africa.

Some intellectuals in the Nigerian capital have also called on the Supreme Military Council to take steps to reduce British interests in the country and demand the withdrawal of Nigeria from the Commonwealth. According to them, Nigeria's wealth was not enough to be manipulated by Britain. It should be recalled that the chief of staff, supreme headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, had since declared Britain as an unreliable friend to Nigeria during the civil war.

Britain is also harboring the most wanted Nigerian, Umaru Dikko, and is sitting unconcerned about Nigeria's desire to repatriate the criminal.

Lagos Cites TASS on Dikko Affair

AB111000 Lagos International Service in English
0830 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] The Soviet news agency, TASS, has described Britain's reaction to the attempted kidnapping last Thursday of Nigeria's fugitive Umaru Dikko as a miserable spectacle. TASS said that the affair was set up by London and Washington in order to dishonor the Nigerian leadership which is following an independent policy.

According to the agency, by attempting to question members of the Nigerian high commission on the incident, Britain is seeking to lead the inquiry away from the real organizers of the provocation. It accused Britain of planning to let off the hook the Israeli agents arrested by Scotland Yard. TASS described Britain's reaction as a farce and blamed British and Israeli agents which it said had kidnapped Umaru Dikko. It said it was an attempt to put Dikko out of the reach of the Nigerian courts.

Commentary Condemns British 'Protection' of Fugitives

AB111040 Lagos International Service in English
0830 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] In spite of last week's incident which almost caused a rupture in the relations between Nigeria and Great Britain, the consensus of opinion here at home is that Nigeria must maintain her determination to bring the fugitives back to the country to face justice for their misdeeds. Indeed this reaction emanated from the fact that most of these fugitives are being harbored by countries that claimed to be traditional friends of Nigeria because of her past closer relations with them, even if such relations came about by accident.

The important thing is that the relationship between Nigeria and these countries, particularly Britain, has been cordial even after independence. That is why many Nigerians are today at a loss in understanding why, of all the European countries, Britain should be the one to harbor most of the fugitive Nigerians who fled their fatherland after making it dry.

Abundant evidence has shown that Britain is not only harboring these fugitives, but is also giving them undeserved protection. Last Friday's [as heard] incident in London has clearly demonstrated the extent to which the British authorities had been protecting the wanted Nigerians. Reports coming from London indicated, for example, that Umaru Dikko's residence was being closely guarded by the British security men — a fact which accounts for the straight action by the police or security agents and the strenuous and futile efforts made to connect the Nigerian high commission and the Federal Military Government with the alleged abduction of Umaru Dikko.

There are other Nigerian fugitives lurking around in Britain, but what is special about Umaru Dikko is that he has never hidden his obsession for destabilizing Nigeria; and this is well known to the British authorities wo have refused to extradite him and his gang.

Funny enough, the British authorities are claiming that these fugitives are political refugees but evidence has been made available to the British public to convince their government that these people had committed economic offenses against their country.

The amount of money siphoned to Britain by these fugitives who were known to be influential cabinet members in the defunct government is yet a sufficient ground to convince a sincere friendly country that Umaru Dikko and his gang are not mere political fugitives running away from victimization.

Their loud-mouthed boasts over the British television screens that they were determined to overthrow the present military administration needs no further proof that they are criminals trying to evade justice.

As the chief of staff, supreme headquarters, clearly asserted in a radio program on Sunday, recent developments as regards Umaru Dikko's alleged abduction will not deter Nigeria from getting the fugitives back to the country.

Indeed, the government and people of Nigeria are now determined more than ever before to do everything possible to bring back to the country those who looted its treasury and took to their heels when the day of reckoning came last December.

Dailies Endorse Government Stance on Fugitives

AB101445 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1200 GMT 10 Jul 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Three papers, the *DAILY STAR*, the *DAILY TIMES* and the *DAILY SKETCH* deliberate on the British Government's negative attitude to the attempt to bring back one of the Nigerian political fugitives in Britain. The papers strongly believe that the recent British Government action was a disguised act of hostility against Nigeria and her entire people. They believe that Dikko is Nigeria's foremost pubilc enemy and should be brought to explain his role.

The *STAR* adds that the British attitude is disappointing and very irritating. The paper suggests that Britain should be held responsible for the repatriation of the Nigerian political fugitives.

The *DAILY TIMES* furthermore reminds Britain that Nigeria is a sovereign state whose interests should be treated with great respect. It advises the Federal Government to take necessary action to bring back the fugitives. The *SKETCH* is of the view that Nigeria's legal and friendly diplomatic relations have been abused by Britain.

It urged the Federal Government not to grant Britain's request over the questioning of any embassy staff. The *STAR*, the *TIMES*, and the *SKETCH* fanatically endorse the stand of the federal government over the issue.

Condemn British 'Diplomatic Offensive'
AB110950 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 11 Jul 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Four papers, the *NIGERIAN HERALD*, the *NIGERIAN OBSERVER*, the *NIGERIAN TRIBUNE*, and the *FINANCIAL PUNCH*, deliberate on the British Government's negative role to the attempt by public-spirited individuals to bring back fugitive Umaru Dikko. In its comment, the *HERALD* calls on the Federal Government to strictly stick to the Vienna Convention regarding the conduct of diplomatic relations among nations. It says that the British Government's open and deliberate assistance to Nigerian fugitives is a further proof of Britain's unfriendliness to Nigeria.

The *OBSERVER* adds that the measures adopted so far by Britain are hostile and detrimental to the economic well-being of Nigeria. The *FINANCIAL PUNCH*, in praising those who masterminded the kidnap attempt, says they deserve medals. The *TRIBUNE* on its part urges the federal government to step up its extradition plans.

The *HERALD*, the *OBSERVER*, as well as the *FINANCIAL PUNCH* and the *TRIBUNE* collectively condemn Britain's diplomatic offensive.

NAN Reports Support for FMG on Dikko Affair
AB101410 Lagos NAN in English 1340 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Lagos, July 10 (NAN) — Many Nigerians have expressed support for the manner in which the Federal Government handled the recent incident involving the attempted kidnapping of fugitive politician Umaru Dikko, according to a nation-wide opinion survey by the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA.

NAN correspondents interviewed a cross section of the public in all the states and Abuja to find out their reaction to the incident and the situation it created between the Federal Military Government and the British Government. A consensus was that those responsible for the kidnap attempt should be regarded as heroes. They also expressed satisfaction with the swift and decisive manner in which the Federal Military Government reacted to the seizure of the Nigerian aircraft and crew by the British authorities. "This shows that Nigeria has matured and is no longer tied to the apron strings of Britain," one of those interviewed said.

The director-general of the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA), Prof Gabriel Olusanya, said "the advanced countries have always taken the developing countries for granted. The Federal Military Government has demonstrated that international relations should be based on mutual respect." He said that it was an unfriendly act for Britain not only to harbour the fugitives but also to provide them with a base to destabilize and harass the government and people of Nigeria.

A lecturer at the Department of International Law, University of Lagos, Dr Akin Oyebode, said "Britain should choose between its relations with Nigeria and Dikko." He said that the incident had demonstrated that Nigerian policy-makers had become mature and capable of "playing in the big league". Dr Oyebode observed that Nigeria had won a psychological battle against the fugitives.

Dr Henry Coker of the Department of Political Science, University of Lagos said, "the kidnap attempt has a message value to other fugitives to either come home or remain in hiding."

The president of the Nigerian Labour Congress, Alhaji Ali Chiroma, said that the conduct of the Federal Military Government in the affair had won international respect for Nigeria.

A former president of the Nigerian Guild of Editors, Chief Chris Okolie, said that the mild reaction of the Federal Military Government to the provocation by British authorities showed that Nigerian leaders "are not a bunch of radicals seeking cheap popularity".

A primary school administrator in Bauchi, Mrs Jimima Haruna, remarked that the British Government ought to have known that it was inviting trouble from the Nigerian Government and people by harbouring the fugitives.

Prof Lawrence Opeke of the Federal University of Technology, Akure, said that the attempted kidnap had nothing to do with politics, adding that Umaru Dikko was an "ostentatious man who could attract kidnappers for ransom."

A legal practitioner in Kaduna, Mr Ademola Ajala, said that the action of Britain in harboring Nigerian fugitives was not a surprise because "since the overthrow of the Shagari administration, Britain has lost its seasoned ally in international fraud and intrigue."

A legal practitioner in Kano, Mr Mike Anigboguwn said that every Nigerian should be proud of the kidnap attempt because Umaru Dikko [word indistinct] a threat to the security of the nation.

Mr Paul Oriere, a businessman in Benin, said that Britain over-reacted by detaining the Nigerian aircraft and its crew. "I am however happy that the Federal Military Government dealt with the issue in a man-to-man fashion," he said.

Dr Femi Sonaike of the Ogun State Polytechnic, Abeokuta, said that the explanation of the Federal Military Government on the Dikko affair was enough to satisfy British authorities. He said that time the had come for the Federal Government to launch an aggressive campaign for the return of those who mismanaged the country's economy during the second republic.

A bank manager at Abuja, Alhaji Isa Ahmed, said that the reaction of the Federal Government was a pointer to the fact that "Nigeria can no longer be bullied."

Mr Tunde Ipimisho, a journalist in Minna, said that the detention of the British Caledonian aircraft in Lagos was an indication that Nigeria was now prepared to match its foreign policy with action.

Some respondents however expressed reservations over the kidnap attempt and the way the Federal Military Government reacted to the issue.

A lecturer in the Department of Political Science at the University of Maiduguri, Dr Offiong Udofia, said that the kidnap attempt was done in an "unprofessional way". He said that the Federal Government should have waited a bit longer before releasing the British Caledonian aircraft.

Former Benue Governor Given 15-Year Jail Term
AB101746 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] The former civilian governor of Benue State, Mr Aper Aku, was today in Lagos sent to prison for 15 years by the Exchange Control Antisabotage Tribunal. He was found guilty on a two-count charge of procurements and importation of foreign currency into the country. He was also fined over 200,000 naira. Mr Aper Aku was jailed 15 years for the first count and 10 years for the second count while he was discharged and acquitted for the third count.

The terms of imprisonment will run concurrently. The chairman of the tribunal, Mr Justice Aladipo Williams, stated that in arriving at the judgement, the tribunal considered a number of factors. These were the nature and the gravity of the offense and the great consequences the act had on the Nigerian economy. He explained that the tribunal also considered the need to bring sanity into the conduct of public officers, as well as the social and political standing of the accused as at the time the offense was comitted. Mr Justice Williams stated that it was regrettable and sad that a person of Aper Aku's standing as chief executive of a state, which was a rare privilege among 80 million Nigerians, to be involved in what he called a despicable act of rundown of the economy.

Mr Justice Williams remarked that the former governor behaved without regard to the consequences of his actions as long as his personal interests and those of his relatives were served.

Earlier today, the tribunal rejected a no-case submission made by the defense in a case involving the wife of the chairman of the banned National Party of Nigeria, Mrs Ukpa Akinloye. The case was, however, adjourned until Thursday, this week, when the defense counsel, Mr Frank Akinwole, is expected to address the tribunal.

Buhari Launches Tree-Planting Campaign in Abuja
AB101610 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] This year's national tree-planting campaign was today launched in Abuja by Nigeria's head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari. The exercise was also carried out in all the states of the federation.

Launching the campaign, Gen Buhari said that it would continue at the local government level. He pointed out that the annual tree-planting ceremony demonstrated the determination of the Federal Military Government to avoid the drought caused by deforestation. The head of state remarked that studies had shown that the greatest demand on the forests is from those felling trees used [words indistinct]. He announced that the present administration would launch a vigorous campaign to encourage people living in urban and rural areas to use gas, kerosene, and coal for cooking.

A Radio Nigeria correspondent said that Nigerian Tobacco Company donated 2,000 tree seedlings at the ceremony. Gen Buhari later commissioned the lower [name indistinct] Dam. It has the capacity for 100 million cubic meters of water.

ANGOLA

Defense Minister Addresses Naval Anniversary

MB101915 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Defense Minister Colonel Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale presided over the main ceremony marking the eighth anniversary of the People's Navy of Angola at the naval base in Luanda this morning. Col Pedale pointed out that the People's Navy of Angola was becoming more capable of ensuring the defense of our sea coast and neutralizing any kind of enemy attack. The defense minister urged those present to make further joint efforts to raise this branch of our Armed Forces to the desired level, always bearing in mind the late President Antonio Agostinho Neto's wish to make the Angolan Armed Forces one of the best in Africa both in defense and organizational capabilities. The following is an excerpt from the speech made this morning by Defense Minister Col Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale:

[Begin Tonha Pedale recording] We celebrate today the eighth anniversay of the founding of the People's Navy of Angola. We celebrate this event as we find ourselves preparing for the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the proclamation of our People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola. Likewise, we celebrate this date at a difficult time — when our people are facing various socio-economic difficulties because of the war burden imposed on us by imperialism through the South African racists and their lackeys. This war situation, which is seriously affecting the socio-economic development of our country, forces us to continue to take necessary measures to ensure the peace and security of our people as well as the economic and strategic structures.

Comrade officers, noncommisioned officers, sailors, and civilian workers of the Angolan Navy: Particular attention should always be given to political and party work to heighten the level of the political and ideological awareness of our troops, as well as others working in this branch. This will enable us to achieve the strong discipline necessary in the strong Army which we intend to build for the defense of our revolution and the fatherland of Agostinho Neto.

On this occasion marking the eighth anniversary of the People's Navy of Angola, I would once agian like to appeal to our young men in general and the members of the party youth wing [JMPLA] in particular to continue to join the ranks of this branch of our Armed Forces with patriotic and revolutionary enthusiasm in order strengthen it further. Accordingly, the work of motivating our youth must continue to be carried out through the party and JMPLA bodies until our objectives are achieved. [end recording]

Those were the words of Col Pedro Maria Tonha during the main celebrations marking the eighth anniversary of the People's Navy of Angola. It should be pointed out that the ceremony began with the inspection of a number of missile boats, destroyers, and patrol boats.

Assembly Delegation Leaves for USSR Visit

MB101945 Luanda ANGOP in French 1230 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Luanda, 10 Jul (ANGOP) — An Angolan People's Assembly delegation, representing the legislative organ, headed by Deputy Kundi Payama, the provincial commissioner of Benguela, left Luanda yesterday for the USSR, where it is expected to hold talks with Soviet parliamentarians. This was disclosed by an authorized source in Luanda. The source pointed out that the visit was part of cooperation relations existing between the People's Assembly and the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union. In addition to Deputy Kundi Payama, the People's Assembly delegation comprises Deputy Francisco Jose Ramos da Cruz and three other parliamentarians from provincial assemblies.

BOTSWANA

Opposition Leader Alleges Ruling Party Corruption

MB110712 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 0510 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] The president of the opposition Botswana Progressive Union, Mr Daniel Kwele, has said that the peace and calm which prevails in Botswana should be nurtured and watered like a plant so that it would flourish. Mr Kwele was speaking at one of several political rallies he addressed recently in the Botedi constituency.

However, he said, the ruling Botswana Democratic Party, BDP, would disrupt the prevailing peace with its policies. Mr Kwele said that juvenile delinquency was on the increase and would grow uncontrolled should the education system remain as it is. He alleged that Standard 7 dropouts were forced to pick up food from dust bins and that funds from the Financial Assistance Policy were being misused. Mr Kwele further said that as a former member of the BDP he was aware of what he called BDP corruption, and alleged that this was one of the factors which had led to his removal from the cabinet. He pledged that his party would improve the status of Standard 7 pupils with grades C and D if elected into power.

National Front Announces Parliament Candidates

MB110654 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1125 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] The Botswana National Front [BNF] has announced that it will fill its secretary general, Mr Mareledi Giddie, and Mr (Modiri Khamia) to stand as parliamentary candidates for Serowe North and Mahalapye constituencies respectively in the coming general elections.

A BNF official, Mr (Mogalekwe Mogalekwe) urged the people at a political rally at Mahalapye over the weekend to vote in large numbers for the BNF candidates. He said that his party's candidates would draw government attention to the problem of unemployment in Mahalapye. Another speaker at the rally, Mr

(Gulubane), said that if the BNF won the coming general elections it would put back into circulation the currency bearing the portrait of the late Sir Seretse Khama. The chairman of the Mahalapye youth wing of the BNF, Mr (Basil Ramaloko), said that the BNF would change the system of land ownership so that companies could not hoard land while people needed it for plowing and grazing their livestock.

MOZAMBIQUE

Filipov Departs for Meeting With Machel in North

MB101825 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] The Bulgarian prime minister, Grisha Filipov, set off for Cabo Delgado Province in northern Mozambique today to meet President Samora Machel, who has been there on a working visit since Sunday.

Mr Filipov arrived in Maputo yesterday to begin a 3-day official visit to Mozambique and held talks with a Mozambican team led by Marcelino dos Santos, the Frelimo Party secretary for economic policies.

At the opening of the talks, Major General dos Santos noted that the two countries had some ties from the time of the Mozambique war for national independence. Bulgaria supported Frelimo liberation movement and they had traditions of working on development projects in Mozambique.

In reply, Mr Filipov said that Bulgaria was aware of the difficulties facing Mozambique but, he said, these difficulties were temporary, and Bulgaria was sure that Mozambique would overcome all of them.

Marcelino dos Santos accompanied Mr Filipov on his trip to Cabo Delgado today. The Bulgarian prime minister, who is scheduled to leave Mozambique tomorrow, is on an African tour which has already taken him to Ghana, Congo, Angola, and Zimbabwe.

Holds Talks With Machel

MB110831 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Grisha Filipov, Bulgarian prime minister, yesterday said in Pemba that he is in Mozambique to, according to his own words, find the best ways to increase the Bulgarian support for the struggle that Mozambique is waging against all the forces that aim to perpetuate ignorance and poverty. Still in his words, the Mozambican revolution is irresistable, because it is waged by the people and has a historic mission to advance progress and welfare in Mozambique. We support your struggle because the Bulgarian and the Mozambican peoples have a right to live in freedom, added the Bulgarian prime minister.

Grisha Filipov went yesterday to Pemba, the capital of Cabo Delgado Province, where he held private talks with President Samora Machel which lasted 4 hours. The talks centered on economic cooperation between Mozambique and Bulgaria. During the meeting Grisha Filipov delivered a personal message from Todor Zhikov, the Bulgarian president. Grisha Filipov has also given President Samora Machel a weapon offered by Todor Zhikov which symbolizes the solidarity of the Bulgarian people with the struggle of the Mozambican people against the armed bandits.

The Bulgarian prime minister went to Pemba accompanied by Marcelino dos Santos, member of the Frelimo Party Political Bureau and secretary of the Standing Commission of the People's Assembly.

Meanwhile, the talks between Mozambican and Bulgarian delegations in Maputo are to end today.

MNRM Claims Bridge Destroyed, Beira Harbor Isolated

MB110954 Johannesburg O SECULO in Portuguese 9 Jul 84 p 1

[Excerpt] The Mozambique National Resistance [Movement, MNR] has announced that its forces destroyed a bridge of vital importance to road communications in Sofala Province, thus isolating the Beira harbor.

According to a spokesman of that movement in Lisbon, the bridge over the Pungue River, 60 km from Beira, was destroyed on 24 June and during this operation 67 Frelimo soldiers were killed.

The MNR spokesman said that the recent accusations of the Frelimo regime of a foreign conspiracy against the country were aimed at diverting the attention of people from the growing dissent within the Armed Forces between officers who defend the government and those who foresee its downfall. So, the MNR spokesman concluded, the government fears a coup d'etat.

NAMIBIA

Amnesty for SWAPO Members Extended to November

MB110731 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] An amnesty for SWAPO insurgents who want to return to South-West Africa/Namibia has been extended to 30 November. The announcement has been printed in the government gazette in Windhoek. The secretary for justice has said that all together 124 men, 24 women, and 7 children have benefitted from the amnesty since it became effective on 23 January 1980. Most of those who returned to South-West Africa/Namibia were from the Caprivi area and had been members of the Caprivi National Union, a group that broke away from SWAPO. Caprivi is in the north of South-West Africa/Namibia.

SOUTH AFRICA

Ciskei Leader Calls for Confederation of States

MB110722 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0605 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Bisho, July 11, SAPA — Closing the fourth session of the Ciskei National Assembly in Bisho today, President Lennox Sebe called for the establishment of a confederation of states in southern Africa and suggested plans aimed at improving the prosperity of South Africa's urban black population.

President Sebe called on Ciskeians to strive for the creation of the confederation, a concept promoted by the South African Government, which gave the homeland independence in 1981.

"The realisation of this ideal will not only herald a new era of peace and prosperity for all...but it will also shatter the diabolical appeal which the African National Congress and other subversive organisations have for sections of our youth," Mr Sebe said.

Mr Sebe said the confederation of states would provide some of the answers to the situation of urban blacks. There would be citizenship for blacks in each state and a common economy serving the confederation's interests, he said.

He mooted a three-tier government structure for urban blacks: a lower level consisting of municipalities, but excluding the four main metropolitan areas; a middle level of the four areas which would have extended powers; and a higher level consisting of the representatives of the metropolitan councils with powers to act in an advisory capacity on a confederal level in matters related to urban areas.

Adding that urban blacks in South Africa were "an undisputable reality," President Sebe called for their inclusion in any new political dispensation.

The homeland leader was critical of Western interest in the region's development, saying it was time Western countries responded to the needs of southern Africa. He said Ciskei's own pleas for aid in the past were rejected on the grounds that the help would be supporting apartheid. "I say that Europe cannot continue to sweep South Africa's 20 million black underprivileged people under the 'apartheid' carpet."

President Sebe said there was a new atmosphere of cooperation in the region following South Africa's recent accords with its neighbours. He also congratulated the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, on the success of his recent European tour.

He told the House that Ciskei had been frustrated by the lack of development capital for housing programmes and for educational facilities of equal standard to those in South Africa.

He questioned why the homeland had been criticised for seeking to develop an air field, two new hospitals and a harbour, while South Africa had constructed the state theatre in Pretoria at a cost of R40 million "and other extravagancies in other parts of the land."

Official Says Black Authorities Not Weak

MB110634 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] The director of local government of the Department of Cooperation and Development, Mr (John Hitchey), says a thorough analysis of the financial position of black local authorities has shown that they are not as weak as is sometimes claimed. Mr (Hitchey) told our Johannesburg news staff that the viability of each of the 29 authorities had been investigated before municipal status was awarded. In residential areas such as greater Soweto, where large-scale capital projests were undertaken, thorough investigations were also carried out to determine the residents' ability to repay loans.

Mr (Hitchey) said development boards were transferring certain funds which had been collected throughout the year to local authorities concerned. In many instances this amounted to millions of rands, and would help place the authorities on a healthy foundation. Other issues such as the transfer of fixed properties, which represented additional sources of income, were also being investigated.

2d Colored Party To Contest Indian Seats

MB111021 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] A second Colored political party is to contest seats for the Indian parliament. The People's Congress Party follows the lead set by the Labor Party. The candidates are to stand as independents to get around the Prohibition of Political Interference Act. The Provisional leader of the self-styled Independent Alliance, A.R. Mahommed of Cape Town, says he and a number of other candidates had approached PCP leader Peter Maris to form links with his party. He says Marais suggested they stand as independents and cooperate with the party after the election.

Officials Detained in Theft of Classified Papers

MB101955 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Text] Two officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs have been detained by the police in connection with the disappearance of classified documents from the department. Disclosing this in a statement issued in Cape Town, the minister of law and order [as heard], Mr Le Grange, said their detention followed investigation of information obtained from the Department of Foreign Affairs. Documents involved in the investigation had been recovered. Charges of theft and a possible contravention of the Protection of Information Act were being investigated, and a second statement would be issued if necessary at a conclusion of the investigation.

The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said he had nothing to add to Mr Le Grange's statement, except to say that he and the collegues of the officials involved were deeply saddened and shocked by the events.

U.S. Politics Seen as Only Motive for Jackson Trip

MB111003 Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikans 3 Jul 84 p 10

[Editorial: "Not now"]

[Text] So the Jesse Jackson circus now wants to come to South Africa. Following the publicity-conscious reverend's Cuban "triumph" with drug pushers, he is looking for a greater prize as self-appointed roving "president" of America — and what could be more attractive than to have the Mandela name linked with his?

Whereas Sir Richard Attenborough entered the country unnoticed and was only traced to the Brandfort road in the neighborhood of Winnie Mandela, Reverend Jackson is planning the exact opposite. He wants to come thundering in to do his thing, with an eye on the American presidential election, and hopes to replace "constructive engagement" with "Jesse Jackson" as American policy towards South Africa.

The Republic can certainly do without people who only want to promote their own political image with no regard for all the problems here. South Africa already has enough leaders and instigators bent on derailing peaceful reform without the aid of imported propagandists.

What should South Africa do? If the American is refused a visa, the international uproar will suit him perfectly. Perhaps we should inform Rev Jackson (if an application is received) that this is a very sensitive period for America and the Republic. The former ought to be allowed to decide on its president in peace. South Africa is experiencing the introduction of a new constitutional system, with the Colored and Indian elections ahead. Surely Rev Jackson does not want to make himself guilty of improper meddling in the affairs of another country?

South Africa should simply let it be known that the reverend is welcome to try again at a time that suits South Africa — and not when it suits the extravagant political plans of the American.

Rejection of Talks With ANC Cited

MB102005 Johannesbrug Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 10 Jul 84

[Station commentary: South Africa's Rejection of Talks With the ANC]

[Text] There is no chance of the South African Government entering into any sort of negotiations with the ANC. This has been restated by the minister of law and order [as heard], Mr Louis le Grange, in his reaction to the ANC statement at the weekend that it would negotiate with South Africa if discussions were aimed at putting an end to apartheid.

Mr le Grange says South Africa is not prepared to have talks, let alone enter into negotiations, with a communist inspired terrorist organization whose goal is the violent overthrow of the democratic order in the country. It is clear, he says, that the ANC has been dealt a severe blow by the Nkomati Accord and other security agreements between South Africa and its neighboring states. This is supported by the fact that since the signing of the accord all but 3 of the more than 50 members of the ANC's special operations unit have been killed or captured inside South Africa and Swaziland. The unit includes the ANC's best trained men — those who had undergone specialized training in the Soviet Union and other Eastern bloc countries.

According to one of the captured men, the unit had been dispatched from Mozambique before the signing of the historic pact. Its mission was to infiltrate the country and create a number of spectacular incidents in order to give the impression that the ANC had a strong infrastructure in the country. This impression is as erroneous as the ANC's propaganda bleat that it is a legitimate organization which has been forced into adopting an armed struggle. Its deeds have shown it be a vicious terrorist organization which received its military hardware from, and whose members are trained by, the Soviet Union and other communist countries. It does not receive this massive support for altruistic reasons. It receives this backing only because it is one of the tools whereby the Soviet Union plans ultimately to transform South Africa into a socialist satellite. It can hardly be expected of South Africa to consider negotiating its own downfall.

Radio Freedom Carries ANC Statement on RSA 'Designs'

EA101135 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 9 Jul 84

["ANC Statement on the Current Situation in Southern Africa"]

[Text] Compatriots: The grand design of the South African racist regime, backed by the Reagan administration, to arrest the South African revolution and to impose its control over the whole of southern Africa is in tatters. For, despite efforts to present a new quote unquote [as heard] good-neighborly [word indistinct], Pretoria's only one constant call is the preservation and entrenchment of white racist rule.

The efforts of the racist regime to build a cordon sanitaire around its borders are meant to give credence to the false allegation that the ANC and its armed wing Unkhonto We Sizwe is an external force and that the root of the conflict in South Africa is outside interference. The escalation of the struggle by the entire population of our country and particularly the stepped up activities of Umkhonto We Sizwe demonstrates for the world to see that our struggle is strongly based on our people.

Pretoria knows the truth because savage sentences, court orders on limitation of burials, arrests, and closing of schools have not deterred our people. On the contrary, all these acts of desperation have only infuriated our people to (?honor) the united resolve to end apartheid whatever the cause. The Botha-Malan offensive is still in (?power).

The Frontline States have reaffirmed their total opposition to apartheid and their support for the ANC and SWAPO of Namibia. This is contained in [as heard] the Stockholm meeting of the foreign ministers of the Nordic and Frontline countries. P.W. Botha's visit to some eight Western countries was a fruitless

thing. Instead of the [word indistinct] in favor of ending the apartheid isolation, the cry everywhere was that the isolation of apartheid will be intensified. Even the friends of apartheid were forced to condemn apartheid in public. Meanwhile our people are displaying a new level of unity in action and determination to end apartheid. Pretoria has played its reserve card and failed. That is why it is becoming more desperate. We should exercise great vigilance.

The African National Congress has learned from reliable sources that P.W. Botha and his generals are hatching plans to assassinate the leadership of the ANC. Its propaganda themes are intended to create favorable conditions for execution of such (?crime). We want to make a (?timely) warning to Pretoria to pause and contemplate the consequences of such a dastardly plan.

At the same time Pretoria and some elements in the security forces of Swaziland are trying to portray the ANC as insensitive and inconsiderate about the death and burial of our combatants who died in Swaziland. Our movement did everything possible. Our official representatives were not only denied access to our fallen and arrested comrades but they in turn were arrested. We have not been given even their grave numbers. Despite all this [words indistinct] took place wherever our people are in memory of the slain heroes. Everybody knows that to bury our fallen we have gone to Maseru, to Matola, and to Harare to mention only a few places. We condemn most vehemently the secret burial of our two comrades killed by the Swazi police in April 1984.

The nature of Pretoria's slanderous campaign assisted by some elements within the Swazi police and security [as heard] is that the ANC is receiving copies of the 1 million signatures presently being collected by the United Democratic front [UDF] from our people as a political act rejecting the constitutional entrenchment of apartheid. This is a desperate act by Pretoria to frighten our people from massively supporting the campaign and it is a systematic plan paving the way to banning the UDF.

We call upon our people to reject this crude and fascist method of dealing with opposition. Our people shall always draw a distinct line between the fraternal Swazi people who have (?formally) supported our struggle and those elements who have sold their souls and are in the pay of South African generals.

We urge our people to raise still higher and maintain the level of their vigilance, political actions, and awareness and to develop and consolidate the unity in action against our common enemy, the people's power in a unitary, nonracial, democratic South Africa. The struggle continues. Victory is certain.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Cites Factors Causing High Prices

MB110707 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Industrial protectionism, high oil import bills, costly importation of manufactured goods, and low copper prices are the major causes of economic hardships affecting Zambia. His excellency the president, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, said in Mazabuka yesterday that the high cost of servicing the nation has resulted in the high prices of goods in the country. Addressing a meeting at (Masumtuku Hall), which was attended by leaders from all walks of life, the president said it was not the intention of the party and its government to price goods beyond the means of the people, adding that outside factors were responsible for the present economic problems.

Dr Kaunda said selfish and ignorant critics have blinded themselves to the numerous factors pulling down and restricting the performance of the economy. He said the United National Independence Party was there for the poorest of the poor, and is willing to look after the lowly paid and unemployed, but is curtailed by lack of funds, adding that the party does not rejoice at the suffering of the people.

Union Congress To Take Action Over Price Increases

MB110907 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] The Zambia Congress of Trade Unions [ZCTU] has expressed concern about the recently announced corn meal prices, and said that it will shortly embark on an unspecified course of action. ZCTU Chairman General Frederick Chiluba said in an interview with Radio Zambia's Newsreel yesterday that the ZCTU was very serious about the action it intends to take on the issue, but declined to elaborate, saying he might play into the hands of those that may like to know about the action.

He said that, as the voice of the worker, the ZCTU will need (?compensation) for what has happened, but could not say what the action will be. The labor leader accused the government of reneging on its budgetary obligations by raising prices outside the indications of the announced budget. He said that the question of raising prices was not merely that of lack of consultation of the labor movement by the government, but that the whole thing has gone beyond expectation.

Meanwhile, chairman of the Prices and Incomes Commission, Dr (Leonard Chivuma), has said that his commission and the government were currently involved in seeking ways of solving the current problem of prices through consultation at various levels. Dr (Chivuma) said the consultation is not at policy level, but on the present practical issue of announced prices, and looks more like a technical consultation. The consultation would not involve the ZCTU.